

THE GATEWAY

volume XCIV number 1 ♦ the official student newspaper at the university of alberta ♦ www.gateway.ualberta.ca ♦ thursday, 2 september, 2004



WELCOME TO THE U OF A Andrea Seiler and Justin Delwo enjoy the waning days of summer. Turn to pages 17-20 for hot tips on how to make this year rad.

Alberta gov't gets low grade

JARED BACHYNSKI
News Writer

Alberta's postsecondary education system was ranked seventh out of the ten provinces in a study released 19 August by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

The study, which has been done annually for the past five years, takes into account four factors: equity, accountability, quality, and accessibility.

Provincial Opposition leader Kevin Taft was not surprised with the province's ranking.

"For the past twelve years, postsecondary education has not been a priority," said Taft.

"The Klein government has pulled the financial feet out from under Alberta's postsecondary education system."

Taft said that a better postsecondary education system can only come following a fundamental change in attitude from the provincial government.

PLEASE SEE ALBERTA ♦ PAGE 2

Travel Cuts lawsuit finally lands in court

COSANNA PRESTON
Senior News Editor

The looming eight-year-long lawsuit over the ownership of Travel Cuts is finally heading to trial this fall.

"Any AOSC members that weren't CFS-S members were essentially disenfranchised and were stripped of their ownership of Travel Cuts."

JORDAN BLATZ
PRESIDENT, U OF A STUDENTS' UNION

Queen's University, the University of Alberta, the University of British Columbia, and the University of Western Ontario have been involved in the battle with the Canadian Federation of Student Services (CFS-S), a national student services organization.

Numerous delays and eight student governments later, the case will finally

come before a judge in the first week of November.

The lawsuit is over the ownership of the national student travel organization Travel Cuts. In 1991, after eleven years of discussion and processing, the Association of Student Councils Canada (AOSC)—the predecessor to CFS-S—transferred all of its assets and responsibilities to the ownership of CFS-S. However, the plaintiffs claim the transfer was dishonest and inappropriate.

"Really what happened here was wrong and what we are trying to do by being part of this lawsuit is right a wrong," said Bill Smith, general manager of the U of A Students' Union. "I look back at all the time I've spent in this business and this one just stuns me," he added.

However, Philip Link, programs director for CFS-S, holds a very different opinion.

"That is what the vast majority of the AOSC members wanted," he asserted. "This was the democratic decision undertaken through years of discussion amongst the elected leadership of the students' unions. For these four student unions, for them to say 'we don't agree with that' is arrogant."

The arguments are not new. In fact,



READY FOR TRIAL Travel Cuts is open for business despite its owner's involvement in an eight-year legal battle.

only a delay, which occurred last fall, has prolonged the continued debate. The trial was postponed because the plaintiffs' lawyer was appointed as the prosecutor with the Anti-Crime and Corruption Unit of the Office of the High Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The case is still a priority for the parties involved and the contention lies with the transfer of assets. However, while Link maintains the plaintiffs are merely stuck on technicalities and that the transfer was welcomed and lawful, the plaintiffs claim the transfer was illegally processed thus void.

"The person who signed off on the transfer ... was the signing officer for AOSC and the signing officer for CFS-S ... and therefore had conflicting interests," said Nick Staubitz, the president of the Students' Council at the University of Western Ontario.

PLEASE SEE TRAVEL CUTS ♦ PAGE 2



21 Football season starts Saturday, and expectations are higher than they've been in a long time for the Golden Bears. Turn to sports for a full preview of their run for the Vanier Cup.

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Outside

Thursday Cloudy with sun? Killer cover bands High 13, Low 10
Friday It's tail, Gavril Princip sings "Take Me Out" High 19, Low 8
Saturday Scattered showers, Wilkes-Booth Park rocks "Pushing me Away" High 20, Low 5
Sunday Clouds, Dead Harvey-Oswalds singer runs for mayor of San Fran High 16, Low 5
Source: Environment Canada

From the archives

In the spring of 1971, Gateway editors created a rival paper and were set to publish its first issue in fall of 1972. The new paper, the Poundmaker, was named after a Cree chief of the nineteenth century and was established in reaction to a Students' Union veto of the Gateway's choice of editor. Because of the controversy surrounding the SU action, Canadian University Press, with whom the Gateway was affiliated, banned the Gateway from using its news service. Meetings were held to resolve the conflict, but had not resulted in resolution. The rebel editors agreed to return to the Gateway only if the right of Gateway staff to elect editors was guaranteed in the paper's bylaws.

1972



26 Toronto rapper K-OS talks about his new album, Joyful Rebellion, and his theories (K-OS theories, anyone?) on modern hip-hop. Where? In A&E. Got

THE GATEWAY

thursday, 2 september, 2004
volume XXIV number 1

Published since 21 november, 1910
Circulation 12 000
ISSN 0845-356X

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THE GATEWAY is published by the
Gateway Student Journalism Society
(GSJS), a student-run, non-profit, non-
political not-for-profit organization,
operating in accordance with the
Societies Act of Alberta.

THE GATEWAY is proud to be
a founding member of the
Canadian University Press.

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colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers,
Linux PowerBook 5500/1000/1000/1000, and a Nikon
Super Cool Scan optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign
is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector
images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster
images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which
are stored directly to plates to be mounted on the
printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles,
and weights of Futura, Garamond, and Avenir. The
Gateway's games of choice are Snood and Battle for
Westwood.

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Travel Cuts
transfer still
a debate

TRAVEL CUTS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Any AOSC members that weren't CFS-S members were essentially disenfranchised and were stripped of their ownership of Travel Cuts," added Jordan Blatz, U of A Students' Union president.

In a court document CFS-S acknowledges the act both presidents refer to.

A member of the CFS-S staff is quoted as saying that CFS-S "partially removed" a threat by successfully disenfranchising the AOSC voting members who [were] not members of CFS-S."

"What doesn't seem to be appreciated by enough people is that the vast majority of CFS-S members were members of AOSC."

PHILIP LINK
DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS, CFS-S

But Link quickly emphasized that the statement holds no relevance in the discussion. He said AOSC wanted the disenfranchisement, as they created CFS-S to replace AOSC, thereby arranging and willing the transfers to occur.

"What doesn't seem to be appreciated by enough people is that the vast majority of CFS-S members were members of AOSC," Link explains. "They wanted this transfer. The people who wanted them disenfranchised were AOSC members."

Link says the only viable argument keeping the case alive is the technicality that the transfer was not completed on time.

But he maintains that the student governments of the time should have and would have dealt with the issue via impeachment of the board had they been concerned.

"What you have now is, 24 years later, a few of those student associations wishing that hadn't been the decision 24 years ago," noted Link.

With the delay occurring nearly a year ago, both sides are now ready to proceed. By mid-December the case should finally be put to rest.

However, at press time there were rumours of further delays.

TIMELINE OF
TRAVEL CUTS
EVENTS

1969 AOSC formed to replace National Union of Students; AOSC existed primarily to sell charter flights to students.

1974 New legislation prevents the sale of travel by non-profit organizations, so AOSC incorporates Travel Cuts.

1981 CFS-S formed to eventually replace AOSC.

1985 Numerous schools begin to leave CFS-S (but remain in AOSC).

1987 Key motion passed at AOSC annual general meeting:

"Be it resolved that the company AOSC do transfer all of its assets and liabilities to the CFS-S in consideration of the assumption of all its liabilities and obligations as of the first day of July 1988, and that the officers are hereby authorized to give effect to this resolution."

1991 (Nov) Ownership of Travel Cuts transferred from AOSC to CFS-S by the CFS-S National Executive

1997 (Oct) Lawsuit filed by Western against CFS-S, AOSC and Travel Cuts because of possible expiry of statute of limitations. Lawsuit seeks return of Travel Cuts to its rightful owner, AOSC.

1998 (Jan) University of Alberta Students' Council resolves to join lawsuit.

1998 (Dec) Discovery process begins (Western only).

1999 UBC and Queen's resolve to join lawsuit.

2000 Motion to add U of A, UBC and Queen's to lawsuit heard by the courts.

2001 Madam Justice Pelowin rules in favour of original plaintiffs — awards costs against CFS-S.

2003 (Sept) Trial scheduled to start, but delayed due to McNair's appointment.

2004 (Nov) Trial scheduled to start.

Low ranking a 'wake-up call' for Alberta

ALBERTA • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"A good education is the best indicator of good health, of higher income, of higher productivity, of lower demands on the justice system—countries revolutionize their futures by investing heavily in education. Education is the key to our prosperous future, not a drain on the provincial budget."

Joseph van der Stoep, spokesperson for Alberta Learning, contended that while the study was faithful to the indicators chosen by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA), it paints an incomplete picture of Alberta's postsecondary education system nevertheless.

"For example the report looks at tuition-related indicators," said van der Stoep.

"Basically, a lower tuition fee level gets a higher rating. However, student financial assistance was not taken into account, and in Alberta, we have one of the most generous student financial assistance programs in the country."

In Alberta, the student loan relief program automatically pays portions of Alberta-based student debt to reduce it to a manageable level, which varies by program but is usually set at \$5000.

"Also, provincial expenditures on postsecondary education have increased 58 per cent since 1996, and now make up 6.1 per cent of the budget, versus the national average of 5.5 per cent," added van der Stoep.

Students' Union president Jordan Blatz thinks that Alberta needs to do more.

"We tout ourselves as Canada's wealthiest province, but we are not funding postsecondary education accordingly. I believe that students in Alberta should be able to access Canada's finest universities in Canada's wealthiest province. Right now, obviously, that's not the case."

The Students' Union will be focusing on increasing public awareness of postsecondary funding shortfalls in time for the upcoming provincial election (expected 22 or 29 November).

To receive their overall ranking of seventh place, Alberta's postsecondary system also garnered a ninth place ranking for quality.

Alex Abouid, president of the Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS), said that Alberta has a lot of work to do.

"We rank in the bottom half in terms of our commitment to postsecondary learning. The fact that we're

even behind Newfoundland reinforces that in my mind."

However, Blatz cautioned that students of Alberta should not be overly alarmed.

"In other studies, such as the Maclean's ranking, the U of A is still considered one of Canada's finest institutions. This is a wake-up call, not so much for current students to worry about, but for the government."

"We rank in the bottom half in terms of our commitment to postsecondary learning. The fact that we're even behind Newfoundland reinforces that in my mind."

ALEX ABOUID,
CAUS CHAIR

Blatz pointed out that one major way students can get involved in the coming months is through participating in the "It's Your Future" survey released by the provincial government last week.

"One survey is being sent out to every household, and there is also an online version," said Blatz.

"We're trying to encourage students and the public to let the government know that postsecondary education should be a major spending priority in the next ten to 20 years."

Correction!

In volume XCIII, issue 46 of the Gateway, published on 1 April 2004, it was erroneously reported that the Graduate Students' Association (GSA) refused to post notices about LGBTQ groups, specifically a group called Inside/Out, on its listserve.

In fact, the GSA did not allow an announcement from Inside/Out as it was a call for members. It is GSA policy not to post calls for members for any group. The GSA has posted all other messages from Inside/Out which complied with its policies; last year, the GSA posted 13 messages for Inside/Out.

The Gateway apologizes for this error.

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stop in for a while

From Lister's lounges to SUB's second floor

SU president Jordan Blatz shares his vision for the academic year

ASIA SZKIDLAREK
News Writer

While most of us spent the summer working mundane jobs or lazily soaking up the sun, Jordan Blatz was busy adjusting to his newfound status as Students' Union president.

With no previous formal SU experience, Blatz relied on Mat Brechtel—last year's main man—for guidance.

"Tuition is always a major focus, and I think unless something significant happens it's going to continue to be a major focus."

JORDAN BLATZ,
SU PRESIDENT

"At the end of May, I wouldn't have known any different if I would have previously been a VP," says Blatz.

Sitting down with this year's prez revealed the results of countless meetings with students, the U of A administration, and rural communities.

RURAL TOUR 2004/05

Essentially a cross-provincial road trip, the tour involved driving out to small town Alberta to promote pursuing postsecondary education at the U of A.

Currently, the university's 23 per cent of rural students is heavily outweighed by the 77 per cent of students coming from urban areas. Blatz sought to discover the reasons for this imbalance.

"Tuition was something that was talked about no matter where one came from; tuition is high, and costs are inhibitive of an education," he says.

Blatz explained that rural students

often have the chance to work in the oil patches right after completing high school, and the cost of missing out on these opportunities is too high.

For this reason, they often don't pursue postsecondary education. Blatz says that this type of valuable information provided him with fresh insights about promoting the university in the future.

MEAL CARDS

"Coming from a residence background and specifically Lister Hall, I wanted to look into the feasibility of expanding the meal card program to our SU-owned operations," says Blatz regarding his next major initiative.

Negotiations with Armark eventually led to an agreement. Beginning on 18 October, students with meal card access will be able to access eight new establishments, including Cram Dunk, Subway, RATT, and the Powerplant.

"Not only is this going to be great for the students, but it's also going to be what I hope to be a very good business decision on behalf of the SU," says Blatz.

GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

Blatz's term in office will require him to plan through three government elections—which he deems an ideal opportunity for the University's voice to be heard.

"As far as the provincial election is concerned, we're going to be working with four different student organizations and faculty organizations in a coalition campaign," says Blatz.

The strategy will involve associations such as the Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) and Council of Alberta Faculty Associations (CAFA).

The campaign will focus on what Blatz sees as a chronic lack of operating funding from the province, and will involve heavy media coverage

and possibly a televised provincial leadership debate in the Horowitz Theatre.

"It's easy for politicians to ignore the demands that students are making. It's easier for them to listen to other demographic groups, because those groups directly result in votes," remarks Blatz.

"The goal is showing the government candidates that it's in their best political interest to listen to students."

Blatz explains that the SU will also raise the issue of the Universal Bus Pass in the municipal election. The scheme would give students free bus passes for the Edmonton Transit Service (ETS) in exchange for a mandatory fee tacked onto every student's tuition.

He added that the SU will also bring up property tax as an issue affecting students. Blatz explained that Alberta universities are unique among their Canadian counterparts, as they are required to pay municipal property tax.

"That's somewhere in the neighborhood of \$750 000 per year, and that directly results in raises in rent for the students. We're going to encourage city council to waive those fees."

"I feel that through the experience I've had in the past, that I have the skills to be able to do this job really well, and I have the motivation and the excitement to do it."

JORDAN BLATZ,
SU PRESIDENT

TUITION

Asked what kind of a focus he'll put on tuition in the upcoming year, Blatz confirms that it's as important an issue as in the past.

"Tuition is always a major focus, and I think that unless something significant happens it's going to continue to be a major focus," he explains.

"We have to work together with the University to try to get the funding, and when the funding comes in, hopefully, that's when we'd take the route we've taken in the past and say, 'okay, now we have the funding, we worked together with you, let's talk about why you shouldn't raise tuition.'"

Additional projects that Blatz will be working on during his presidency include ensuring a smooth transition for the Augustana-U of A merger, developing a campus-wide undergraduate survey, as well as focusing on intensifying the undergraduate experience.

The new prez will have many late nights, pressure and deadlines ahead of him, but with similar experiences on a smaller scale as the president of the Lister Hall Students' Association, he's ready for the challenge.

"I feel that through the experience I've had in the past, that I have the skills to be able to do this job really well, and I have the motivation and the excitement to do it," he concludes.



MATT FREEMER

PLANNING FOR THE YEAR Jordan Blatz faces a long list of challenges.

Campus Nightlife



POWERPLANT
restaurant & bar

Ship Night Thursdays

Residence Student Night, every Thursday

Crush On Fridays

With DJ Redpoint

Dance till you drop with your favourite Top 40

Saturday Night Live

Sept 11 featuring Bedouin SoundClash w/ Chris Colepaugh & the Cosmic Crew and Budd Pluggsdt & Texass Mikey (ex-smalls)



New Music Mondays

Universal Music's CD release party every week

September 13th - Tegan and Sara
(new album / prize giveaway)

Hip Hop 101 Thursdays

with Jsmilz

Old School Hip Hop

Friday Night
R&B / Urban / Dance

A Decade Under the Influence

French Pop / 60s Pop and Soul
Every Saturday Night



Football Mondays

NFL and Premiere Soccer

Karaoke Wednesdays

With Stone Rock Productions

Hockey Thursdays

Oilers Hockey w/ sports trivia

Saturday Game Nights

With DJ Colin
Athlete's Night

NO MINORS
HAPPY HOUR 3-8 PM DAILY

A Service For Students, Staff,
Alumni and Guests



297

Wow

STREETERS

Compiled and photographed
by Caitlin Crawshaw and
Leanne Fong

The summer holidays are wrapping up and school is just around the corner, but there are still the memories to cling to.

What did you do on your summer holiday?



Ben Martin
Electrical
Engineering III

I learned to fly a plane and got to apply some of the knowledge I learned in engineering. I also worked a co-op job in biomedical engineering.



Vivian Magee
Dental Hygiene III

I was actually working for quite a bit, and I went houseboating—I'd really recommend trying it if you haven't. I worked in a dental office downtown; that was really fun.



Sheryl Ellis
Business III

I was in Scotland this summer—I'm an exchange student this year, so I worked all summer working to save up money to come over here. I'm from Edinburgh, and I worked for a utilities company there as a telephone operator.



George Belic
Grad Studies I

I traveled to Nova Scotia, Cape Breton and worked. I worked at the International Academy of Design in Toronto, and I taught computer programming there.

Title change for head of Native studies

CAITLIN CRAWSHAW
News Editor

After 16 years of leadership by a director, the University of Alberta school of Native studies will now be led by a dean.

This spring, the General Faculties Council (GFC) voted in favour of the title change, though this will not give Native studies faculty status. Like business, Native studies is considered a school.

Dr Ellen Bielawski, the current dean of the program, explains that program directors have assumed the duties of dean, regardless of title.

"Since the director was doing the job of the dean, it's good to have a title to go with it. And when you're doing fund development for the school, people outside of the university recognize your rank better," she said of the change.

Bielawski said that Native studies was originally structured as a school because of its interdisciplinary nature. "It's not a discipline that belongs properly in any of the other faculties," she explained, adding that the school was designed to have close ties with different faculties and departments of the University.

The school does not have faculty status simply because of its size, according to Bielawski. However, she suspects that within the next couple of years this may change.

Provost Dr Carl Amrhein initiated the motion to change the director's title at GFC. He explained that the school is not a faculty due to its history and size. The school has been a small operation since it began, lacking sufficient numbers to be a faculty.

"Those are the only two real differences in every meaningful way. They function equal to a faculty and they have standing on the deans' council," he explained. Amrhein added that faculty status may be a possibility in the future.

Councilor Matthew Wildcat, who represents the school of Native studies in Students' Council, argued that the reason the school has not been recognized as a faculty relates to a lack of respect for the discipline on campus.

"To be perfectly honest I don't think people on campus give Native studies very much respect at all. For the most part, people view Native studies students as people coming out of high school who didn't have a good enough average to get into another faculty, or athletes who can't cut it in any other

faculty," he said.

Wildcat argued that the title change is unlikely to change how the campus views the school. In his view, people need to take Native studies courses in order to understand their level of difficulty and their place in academia.

According to Bielawski, a third to half of Native studies students are Aboriginal, and for this reason, it's not accurate to generalize about how the U of A campus views the discipline.

"Since the director was doing the job of the dean, it's good to have a title to go with it."

**DR ELLEN BIELAWSKI,
DEAN, SCHOOL OF NATIVE STUDIES**

"It's not just Aboriginal people studying about Aboriginal people," she argued. "It's a lot of us who find the discipline interesting and challenging, and find that in the world we live in, we need to know about Aboriginal people, because we are in relationships with Aboriginal people everyday."

Amrhein contested the idea that the school is not seen as an equal to the faculties.

"Exactly the opposite I think is the truth—the school of Native studies is in every meaningful sense equal to a faculty. And that's why I wanted to make the academic leader a dean, so there could be no confusion about the stature of the academic leaders."

Wildcat, a former engineering student and SU engineering councilor, said he left engineering for an education in Native studies after deciding it would be a better way for him to help Aboriginal Canadians.

"I think it's one of the most important fields in the University now for people," he said. Wildcat added that people will interact with Aboriginal people in most lines of work and noted that Aboriginal issues are complex and should be studied as a separate discipline.

He noted that the school also has special significance for Aboriginal students, who in his view often feel alienated from their non-Aboriginal peers.

"For students coming in, it means they can come to the U of A and learn about themselves and learn about all of the issues out there that affect them and their communities and relatives."



DIRECTOR TO DEAN Dr Ellen Bielawski pleased her title now reflects her work.

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on-line applications
October 1, 2004 Application deadline



OLSAS www.ouac.on.ca/olsas/
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November 1, 2004 Application deadline—first year
May 2, 2005 Application deadline—upper years



TEAS www.ouac.on.ca/teas/
Teacher Education Application Service
December 1, 2004 Application deadline



ORPAS www.ouac.on.ca/orpas/
Ontario Rehabilitation Sciences Programs
Application Service
(Audiology, Occupational Therapy,
Physical Therapy/Physiotherapy,
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January 17, 2005 Application deadline



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Economics student sets sights on 24 Sussex Drive

CASSIE BROWN
News Writer

Political apathy among youth has garnered media attention in recent months, but former University of Alberta student Alim Merali may be breaking the mould.

The 20-year-old economics major—who will start at the Richard Ivey School of Business at the University of Western Ontario in the fall—was recently selected as one of ten finalists in the "As Prime Minister" essay contest. With this selection he won \$10 000, a four-month paid internship at automotive supplier Magna International and a week-long trip to Ottawa in November. There, he will present his vision of Canada to Prime Minister Paul Martin and could win the national prize—an additional \$10 000 and a one-year internship at Magna International.

During his time at the U of A, Merali was involved in debating and the Model UN. Most recently, he began his own publishing company and is currently writing a book about student debating that he plans to publish himself.

Before being selected as a finalist, Merali spent a week in Toronto competing with 50 other semi-finalists in the program. He presented his ideas to a panel of national media figures, including political journalists Mike Duffy and Joan Crockett, where he defended his arguments against tough critiques.

"I felt like a Prime Minister walking into a news conference to be grilled by the media. Unfortunately, in this news conference you actually have to answer the questions," he said.

Merali's ideas touched on some controversial Canadian issues.

"On foreign policy, I called for bold and decisive leadership to advance our

strategic interests and our liberal democratic values," said Merali.

"One of my proposals was forming a 'NATO' of international aid that would join together fellow liberal democracies to push for more accountability and transparency in the developing world."

Merali also wrote about tax reform, emphasizing his belief that Canadians under 30 should be given tax breaks. This would allow them to build a base of wealth in order to avoid dependence on social supports later in life.

The charismatic undergraduate says the program offered him a chance to form friendships with other contest participants.

"I had an opportunity to meet other young leaders who had innovative proposals for Canada. While their interests were diverse, they all shared an enthusiasm for moving the country forward with unique ideas," he said.

Merali will continue to be involved in the program through the alumni community of program participants.

"Undoubtedly, many of the alumni will be national leaders in the decades ahead," he said.

Merali encourages all University of Alberta students to submit essays for the "As Prime Minister" program, no matter what their academic training.

"Anyone with strong opinions and the ability to back them up can succeed in the 'As Prime Minister' awards. The fields of study range from biochemistry to business, engineering to economics."

But it was his own training in economics that most heavily influenced Merali's plans for the prize money.

"While it may be tempting to go on a shopping spree, I will use the award to further my involvement in extracurricular activities, leadership endeavors, and conferences."



ALIM MERALI Former U of A student wins \$10 000 and may win more.

Canada's ashtray no more?

Québec may ban smoking as early as next spring

DAVE WEATHERALL
Québec Bureau Chief

MONTREAL (CUP)—Québec has long been synonymous with alcohol and cigarettes, but whether bar and restaurant goers will continue to be allowed to enjoy the two together is up for debate.

The Québec tobacco act is up for revision next year, and provincial Health Minister Philippe Couillard is preparing to hold public meetings in the fall about potentially instituting a province-wide ban on smoking in bars and restaurants. A decision by the Liberal government is expected by March.

The announcement, predictably, has drawn ire and praise from the range of groups having a vested interest in the issue at hand.

Ellen McCann, owner of one of the heaviest smoking bars in Montréal, the Cock 'n' Bull, isn't worried about the effect the looming smoking ban could have on bars.

"I don't think people will stop drinking just because they can't smoke in bars anymore," she said. "They'll just go outside and have a cigarette."

McCann, an ex-smoker who quit cold turkey on a New Year's Day after 30 years of tobacco use, said the government has to step in if Québec is to become a healthier society.

"If you look at it now, there are some restaurants in Montréal who have banned smoking completely; they lose customers to the restaurants who do allow smoking," she said. "So obviously if the government says, 'Okay no smoking anywhere,' everyone is on a level playing field, and if smokers want to eat out or drink they'll have no choice but to go to a non-smoking

establishment."

If smokers in cities like Toronto and New York can get used to it, so can the Québécois, the bar owner said.

It may be just a matter of time, but Ottawa bar owners have also been hit hard by the smoking ban recently introduced in the nation's capital.

Karen Bodirsky of the Fair Air Association of Canada said that 60 out of the 210 bars that existed before the ban have since gone out of business.

"Our members, which include hundreds of pub and bar owners, are concerned about being able to continue to serve a substantial number of their customers," Bodirsky said. "The fact is, smokers go out more often, spend more money and are more regular customers within the hospitality industry. It's devastating for a small bar or pub to have to tell 40 or 50 per cent of their clientele that, essentially, they're no longer welcome."

Matthew Anderson, a regular at the downtown Montréal bar Mad Hatter's, said if the government implemented a smoking ban he would be less likely to go out.

"If smoking is bad, then ban cigarettes, not where you can smoke them. The government says smokers can go outside and have a cigarette. Well, if they want us to do that, they should let us bring our drink out with us."

According to the Coalition québécoise pour le contrôle du tabac, about 300 people die each year in Québec from illnesses linked to second-hand smoke.

Smoking kills approximately 45 000 Canadians every year. The total cost the Canadian healthcare system directly related to smoking is estimated at just under \$4 billion a year.

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Gov't to allow colleges to grant degrees

ROSS MOROZ
News Writer

Albertans will soon be able to obtain university degrees without ever attending a university, thanks to new legislation from Alberta Learning.

The new rules, contained in Alberta's Post-Secondary Learning Act, became a point of contention between the government and the province's students' unions last year when the Act was still referred to as Bill 43.

A separate provision that allowed the Minister of Learning to dissolve students' associations in instances of "financial irregularities" sparked the ire of the province's SUs.

Despite numerous protests, the act became law this spring, allowing, among other things, Alberta's colleges to ask the government for the ability to hand out university degrees.

"If an institution is interested in providing a degree-granting opportunity, they have to apply to the Minister of Learning," said Alberta Learning spokesperson Josepha van der Stoep.

"[The minister] will then forward it to the Campus Alberta Quality Council."

Headed by the University of Alberta's ex-provost Dr Doug Ovrum, the Campus Alberta Quality Council (CAQC) is an eleven-person board made up of representatives from colleges, universities and public school boards across Alberta. The board also includes two out-of-province advisors.

CAQC spent the summer months establishing the conditions and standards that the institutions would have to meet in order to qualify for the degree programs.

The efforts of the council were to ensure that the new degree-granting programs maintain the standard of education that is already offered by degree-granting postsecondary institutions.

CAQC's work aside, the U of A Students' Union still has major concerns about the Post-Secondary Learning Act.

"The ability of colleges to grant degrees affects students at every university in this province," said SU Vice President (External) Alex Abboud.

"It is important to ensure that any degree program offered at an Alberta postsecondary institution is of a certain quality, and we have yet to be shown that a college is able to offer this."

Abboud is also concerned about the prospect of degrees obtained from colleges being perceived as inferior by employers or out-of-province

institutions.

"There is the fear that we will end up with a two-tiered system of degree programs in this province," explained Abboud.

"It's important to ensure that any degree program offered at an Alberta postsecondary institution is of a certain quality, and we have yet to be shown that a college is able to offer this."

ALEX ABOUD,
CAUS CHAIR



COLLEGES ABLE TO GRANT DEGREES? Alex Abboud discusses his concerns.

"Currently, U of A graduates can be guaranteed that their degree program will be recognized nationally and internationally. There is no guarantee that a degree from an Alberta college will be recognized inter-provincially and internationally."

When asked about the possibility of "two-tiers" of degrees emerging, van der Stoep disagreed.

"Well, first of all, that's a really speculative question. I mean, we're talking about something that I really don't see happening," she replied.

She explained the council will review each program on the basis of quality and necessity to ensure a standard throughout Alberta's postsecondary institutions.

"[The colleges] have to show there is a need for the degree, and that what it is doing is complementing the excellent programming that the universities already have," said van der Stoep.

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MORE DETAIL IS ALWAYS BETTER; ANONYMOUS TIPS ACCEPTED.

Five tips to make your university experience not suck

MY FIRST year of university might as well have never happened. I was a bag of nerves, walking around wide-eyed, stepping gingerly so as not to trip whilst my synapses tried to take it all in. "A blur," some might say. A waste. And while the stress of school was enough to cause anxiety, there are a few very simple things that you can do to avoid this semi-catatonic state.

First, and most important, you need to relax. It isn't enough to study for five hours a night and take a few half-hour breaks here and there. You need to take a night or two off, go out, and forget about that stupid chemistry lab you have to do tomorrow. Conversely, if studying isn't your thing and relaxing is, maybe you ought to take a few hours to go over your notes to make sure you aren't going to go into that chemistry lab and shut the bed, as it were.

Second, you must realize that once the University has your tuition dollars, they will cease bending over backwards to accommodate whatever it is you need them to accommodate. Now, this isn't a hard and fast rule, obviously; there are some people who work in the University administration who are angels. Find these people. Make friends with them. But don't be surprised when there's a dearth of kind souls—after all, it isn't just a student's "job" that's stressful.

Third, if you live exclusively on-campus, get off it every once and awhile. This goes for the folks living downtown and on Whyte Ave as well. If all your world consists of is the University, a few restaurants and shops nearby, and the local laundromat, you're going to find yourself frequently shaking hands with a fellow named sweet, sad loneliness. Get out of the house and explore the city. Edmonton isn't huge, but there are a few key places that will make your stay here all the more interesting.

Fourth, bring a lunch to school. I think it's fair to say that most of us have tight purse strings. And while some food on campus is relatively cheap, it can do significant damage to your bankroll if you eat out every day. You'll notice, also, a ballooning effect taking place down on your waistline. Yes, eating out is fun. But listening to Richard Simmons incessantly just to shed those pounds will make you stab your roommate. Trust me, I know.

And lastly, for the love of god, get involved. This is a huge campus with tens of dozens of student groups, clubs, and organizations looking for people just like you to join up and help out. Why not go on a ski trip with the Ski Club, or get involved in the political sphere of Students' Council? Hell, if you fancy yourself something of a writer or photographer, find your way to the Gateway offices and lend a hand. Whatever you do, do something. This place will suck out your soul if all you do is eat, sleep, and go to class.

These are but a few tips I've culled from over six years at this institution. Heed my advice and things will go a lot more smoothly for your first year than it did for mine. And remember, when things get blurry and my advice doesn't seem to be working, there are numerous coffee shops conveniently located throughout campus that can help get you on track.

Good luck.

ADAM ROZENHART
Editor-in-Chief

Running with grace

It may fall short of being the "tragedy" that some were calling it at the time, but the attack on Brazilian runner Vanderlei de Lima near the end of the Olympic marathon was certainly a sad and deplorable act.

De Lima was in the lead at the time, eventually finishing third after rejoined the race. Yet amid angry calls for him to be awarded a second gold medal, he has calmly—and appropriately—accepted his bronze. He's handled the situation with remarkable grace—frankly, much more than I imagine I would have shown in a similar situation. He's a fine example of why "sportsmanship" is such a highly regarded quality. You'll rarely see a finer example of it.

JAKE TROUGHTON
Sports Editor



KEEP THE MOMENTUM GOING

LETTERS

Engineers obviously have too much money

As I was walking past the new engineering building this summer, I couldn't help but notice that the decorative concrete walls outside that building have a variety of math equations emblazoned on the side.

Is this what the engineers are spending their money on? Flaunting to the rest of the University what huge nerds they are? As a sociology student, I no longer even have a reading room, and the faculty of engineering can afford to superimpose the formula for the radius of a circle on their buildings? How is this fair?

Look, I realize that businesses aren't going to donate money to Arts in the same way as they give to the engineers, but do you think, maybe, the administration could shift some of the University funding away from the engineering building decoration fund and give a little to arts?

I could be crazy, but when it comes down to whether our buildings should be flashing Greek letters and multiplication signs or sociology students should have a place to store and use research materials, I'm going to go with the reading room.

But, oh, wait, what am I thinking, arts doesn't make the University money. Why would we give them

money? Where can I donate to this building decoration fund? I think the civil engineering building could use a little colour.

Either spread the wealth around or at least don't burr our noses in it.

BRIAN SOBCHAK
Arts III

Stop in HUB and I'll stab you, first-year

I've got a warning for all you first-years: don't mess with me. Of course, by "don't mess with" I mean "don't walk slowly in" and by "me" I mean "HUB mall."

Seriously. Maybe in high school you could walk wherever you wanted, whenever you wanted, but this is university, man. We've got places to go, and fast. And you, apparently, don't. In fact, the only thing you seem to have to do is stand in one place with your goddamn friends and chat. But check this out buddy: while you're all like "You'll never guess what Samantha told me yesterday!" I'm all like "I gotta get to fucking class!"

HUB mall is designed as a two-way street. This shouldn't be that hard to figure out: always walk on the right side of the mall, and never, under any circumstances, stop. Not even if you see someone who's seriously injured or sick. Just take out your cell phone, call 911, and let the paramedics deal with them. You

don't have medical training, so why would you stop and help someone, huh? HUH? Because really, you're causing more harm than good at that point. By forcing people to stab you, it's like Jeremy Bentham once said: "As to the evil which results from censorship, it is impossible to measure it, for it is impossible to tell where it ends." Figure that one out, you goddamn philosophy students.

ALEX MUAT
Business IV

Bring in the Chinese new beer, Powerplant

Hello, this is my first year at this learning establishment and after spending some time in your Powerplant bar it has come to my attention that you only serve Heineken beer and not the vastly superior Tsing Tao beer.

Now, I understand that Tsing Tao is seen as being a cheap Chinese knock-off of Heineken, and while I agree that Tsing Tao is definitely cheaper than the famous Netherlands brew, those crusty comrades in Red China have created a much tastier pint with their version of the recipe. So in turn, I think that the "Plant" should stop serving Heineken and start serving Tsing Tao in its place.

LAURA GORDON
Science I

Not much foresight on the fish tank

Maybe it's just me, but doesn't anyone else think that the new koi pond outside the admin building is a little shortsighted?

Between *Deadpool* and *Listerious*, I give those poor suckers about one week before they're sadly swallowed during some kind of drunken dare. And if any do survive, they'll be frozen by October anyway.

ARCHIE LAMPMAN
Education II

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to opinion@gatewayualberta.ca.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication.

Speaking of which, it's high time you folks started sending in more letters. We have tonnes of offensive stuff in this issue, and surely one of you wants to give us what for. If you're reading this far, you obviously care enough to want to write a letter. So do it. Knibb High Football rules.

Are you sure you want to be here?

University isn't for everyone, and Thailand is nice this time of year



MELVIN
BACKSTROM

As usual for this time of year, this newspaper's opinion section will undoubtedly be filled with homilies directed to those who are just entering into the brave new world of postsecondary education. Extolling the vast possibilities for academic learning, well-intentioned columnists will do their utmost to congratulate you on finding your way to this "inexplicably recognized institution"—one of U of A President Rod Fraser's favourite sayings. They will urge one and all to soldier on through the trials and tribulations that may beset you here, while clinging fast to the certain truth that it is all for the best.

While not wanting to rain on anyone's parade, I think a few words of caution are in order from one whose undergraduate career at the U of A stretches, frighteningly enough, all the way back to the halcyon days of 1995. In that time I've been witness to the continued foolishness that pervades the thinking of far too many well-intentioned parents and high school guidance counselors: that going directly into university after high school graduation is the best thing to do.

I wholeheartedly agree that a university education is a wonderful thing, but it's not something that should be

"While I recognize the possibility of someone being absolutely sure of what they want to do with their life right out of high school, I'd wager that most people at that age are like I was: going to university out of a general malaise stemming from not knowing what else to do with their lives."

wasted on those who aren't ready for it. Kids (sorry, but though you can now legally drink, you're not adults yet) enter university having never been out of school, but are still willing to spend thousands of dollars of taxpayers' money. And this is all during years of their life when they've never taken the opportunity to see what other possibilities for personal growth exist in this world.

While I recognize the possibility of someone being absolutely sure of what they want to do with their life right out of high school, I'd wager that most people at that age are like I was: going to university out of a general malaise stemming from not knowing what else to do with their lives.

There are certainly far worse ways to figure oneself out than attending university, but there are also far better and much cheaper ways to do it. It seems to me that one way of dealing with the ever-growing numbers of people wanting a university education would be to institutionalize a post-ponement of it until one has reached the age of 20, to give people time and experience to decide whether university is really for them. This could be done by expanding the requirements for university admission to include non-academic criteria, such as having

to be in the work force for at least 12 months or doing some international travel, preferably in a developing country.

Though seemingly strict, these criteria would provide those who ultimately end up at university with knowledge of the world away from the protective confines of formalized education. This would benefit everyone involved, and also stop the practice of governments subsidizing the cost of teenagers maturing into adults—not the proper role for scarce tax dollars, methinks.

These proposals are, of course, highly unlikely to ever happen and are in fact my way of arguing for the usefulness of having some life experience outside of school before beginning university. Maybe some of you first-year students are sure that this is the place for you and can't wait to be challenged by the difficulties ahead; in that case, welcome to the U of A.

However, for those of you not instilled with a passion for learning, and who are here because of parental expectations or think this is simply a place to get drunk and laid, think again. After all, you have until 21 September to withdraw and get your money back, and that's more than enough cash for a long trip to Thailand.

Old Whyte mare she ain't what she used to be, ain't what she used to be



DAVID
BERRY

Like a lot of you, I'll likely be spending most of my free time this coming year walking, or in most cases stumbling, up and down Whyte Ave in an effort to distract myself from high tuition and low marks.

And while Whyte is still probably the best place to go in our fair town for recreation, be it taking in a play, buying a decent CD or killing the brain cells that store our hopes and dreams, it isn't hard to tell that this once-proud hive of everything that was good about Edmonton is slowly slipping into decrepit oblivion.

Maybe it's the rapidly increasing number of chain stores, or the equally rapidly increasing number of "chachi" slickheads running around starting fights and stabbing each other, but Whyte just doesn't feel like it used to. I know several people who have essentially stopped going to Whyte completely, and while a few years ago you could only assume these types of people were the kind of hopelessly out-of-touch folks who still slept in their parents' beds and joined the Trekken's Liberation Front. Nowadays, though, I'd be thinking of joining them if I didn't live three blocks away from this den of alcohol and retail.

For the perfect example of why I'd spend my time elsewhere if it was

convenient, you needn't look much further than the new complex erected on the former site of Albert's Family Restaurant on the northeast corner of 104 Street.

Maybe it's the rapidly increasing number of chain stores, or the equally rapidly increasing number of "chachi" slickheads running around starting fights and stabbing each other, but Whyte just doesn't feel like it used to.

What used to house some mildly unique, character-filled establishments now features a host of businesses that must make Sherwood Park weep with jealousy: in the place of the former brown-grown pancake house—not to mention the pet store, a mildly unique clothing store, and that really strange new-wavey shop—is a Starbucks, a Chili's and the "Marble Slab" ice cream parlour which, while slightly more original than a Baskin-Robbins, also has an outlet at South Edmonton Common, and we all know how radically different that box-store orgy is.

Add to this new crop the already-existing ubiquitous soul suckers like the massive Chains on 105 Street, the several Second Cups that dot the Ave, and that incredibly stupid nou-

veau-styled hotel ("The Met," I think), and our beloved avenue is turning into Anystreet, North America.

This kind of stuff could be forgivable if one could still get oneself decently sauced without hassle on the Ave, but even the drinking establishments are going the way of the crap. Pubs are slowly being replaced by pseudo-dance club meat markets, and even institutions like the Strat, the Commercial and the Black Dog are raising drink prices and becoming places to be "seen" rather than to develop your alcoholism in peace.

Of course, there are still plenty of good reasons to go to Whyte: the Varscona still produces some of the best plays in Edmonton; there is still a wide variety of fairly unique clothing, music, and miscellaneous stores; it's almost the only place in Edmonton that has a night life; and, of course, there's the farmers' market on weekends. However, it still feels like it won't be too long before the Gap pushes out the Army & Navy and the best place to drink will be Boston Pizza.

Now, lamenting Whyte's demise is fairly pointless, I'll admit. After all, it's been going on pretty much ever since the Canada Day riots a few years ago, and people like me still flock there, to say nothing of the fact that before Whyte does eventually succumb to the status quo some new place with something different will pop up—hell, I would argue that 124 Street is like that already. But still, even if it is just a natural cycle, it's sad to see what used to be a fairly interesting area deteriorating into dirt suburbs. Especially since it's so close to my house and all.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY STUDENTS' UNION ELECTIONS



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- Supervise polling stations
- Wage: \$7.50 per hour
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Applications available at SU Info Booths in SUB, CAB, HUB, and ETLC, and at 2-900 SUB.

If you would like to review all Students' Union job postings, they can be found at this website: www.usualberta.ca/employment

POWERPLANT restaurant & bar

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Saturday Sept. 18



SHUCKER
W/ STONE HARDING AND SHOUT OUT OUT OUT OUT
\$7 @ DOOR
DOORS @ 8PM

Wednesday Sept. 22



THE U OF A MUSICIAN'S CLUB PRESENTS SONIC UNION ARTISTS FROM TORONTO
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TIX @ DOOR
DOORS @ 8PM

Saturday, Sept. 25



100.3 THE BEAR AND VUE WEEKLY PRESENT: EMI RECORDING ARTISTS
STABITO
W/ DOUBTING PARIS AND TOURIST
TIX \$10 IN ADVANCE @ TICKETMASTER,
BLACKBYRD, THE POWERPLANT AND HUB, SUB, AND CAB INFO DESKS.
NO MINORS, DOORS @ 8PM

Saturday, Oct. 9



HOT LITTLE ROCKET (CALGARY)
W/ THE TAYLOR DONS AND JOEY AND THE INTSPUNKS
TIX \$7 @ DOOR
DOORS @ 8PM

For more info, call 492-2048 or visit www.su.usualberta.ca/events

The Powerplant is a service of Your Students' Union for U of A Students, staff, alumni, and their guests. All shows are no minors unless otherwise stated.



Enjoy September while it lasts, you poor, uneducated suckers



JOSH
KJENNER

As these silky words caress your soul, another year of school is undoubtedly unfolding around you, and we're all getting ready to settle back down into the routine that is university. All of us, that is, except for the first years. Why? Because the only routine they know how to settle into is taking the yellow bus home to have mommy wipe their bum-bums while they eat Gushers and watch *Pokémon*. They haven't gone through the character-building, wallet-draining, jadedness factory that is a semester of university.

That is why, in an effort to impress all the first year girls, I have decided to spend my precious time trying to tell these little rascals what to expect. So kids, in the immortal words of the Deaner: lets give 'er.

Every school year starts in September. This is like high school. What's not like high school is that September is now basically the sweetest month of your goddamn life. Homework is in short supply, meaning you get to live the sweet, commitment-free life of a hobo (minus the fleas and syphilis) for an entire month. As well, everyone is back from summer sporting tans and fly duds, meaning that for about a month our campus looks like an Abercrombie catalogue. This contrasts sharply with November, when everyone on campus becomes an ornery, pasty harpy encapsulated by a 14-inch layer of wool and Goretex.

The best part about September though? Everyone parties like it's 1999! (*I realize that for the intended audience of this article, this expression may not make much sense, as you could not party in 1999 due to the fact that you were approximately seven. Anyway, this weird guy named Prince had a song that said "tonight we're gonna party like it's 1999" that old dudes like myself really dig/dug. That's it.)

The people who've been here for a few years get to see people they haven't seen all summer, and the first years tend to like to get acquainted with a new friend—"boozin'."

The people who've been here for a few years get to see people they haven't seen all summer, and the first years tend to like to get acquainted with a new friend—"boozin'." Chances are you're going to hear at least one story about some kid from Dewberry who moved to Lister and decided to drink about 13 quarts of Arbour Mist and shit his pants while trying to grab his cousin's tits. Yep, September is the month of the party.

Then there's October, the name of which should be changed to "Oh-fuck-I-kind-of-forgot-about-all-these-classes-and-shit-tober." October is as sobering as bonging a jug of coffee in a cold shower while your mom watches. Several realities become apparent during this month, one of

which is that we live within bike-riding distance of the North Pole and as a result it's actually pretty goddamn cold here. Another fact: we're actually at school to learn, and said learning involves a bunch of things that could be best described as "bummers," like homework and tests. Still though, October is generally a decent time.

November, on the other hand, should be used as punishment for shoplifting. This is not a fun month. Finals loom, projects are due, and it now starts to get really goddamn cold.

As well, your buddy from Dewberry and the rest of the hardest partying five per cent or so of the campus population have by now boarded the train to Flunkopolis, so things are a little quieter. Add to this the fact that everyone's starting to get a bit broke, and you have one lousy month.

Finally, you have December, which is actually pretty underrated. Sure there are finals, but you don't really have to wake up early for class anymore and can pretty much do whatever you feel like. This depends on

your faculty, of course; the engineers will undoubtedly be burning the proverbial midnight oil come December. But if you're lucky enough to be in phys ed, you shoot a few free throws, run a foot race or two and boom: it's Santa time.

So, rookie, there you have it. Your first semester of school mapped out courtesy of a cagey fifth-year vet. Heed these wise words, and hopefully you can avoid becoming an incestuous, addiction-prone train wreck from Dewberry.



STOP LOOKING AT THAT MAP Uncle Josh has all the campus information you'll ever need, newbie.



Clubs Fair

September 6 & 7th
Butterdome
9am - 5pm

&

September 8, 9, 10th
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With over 300 groups on campus, we're sure to have one for you!

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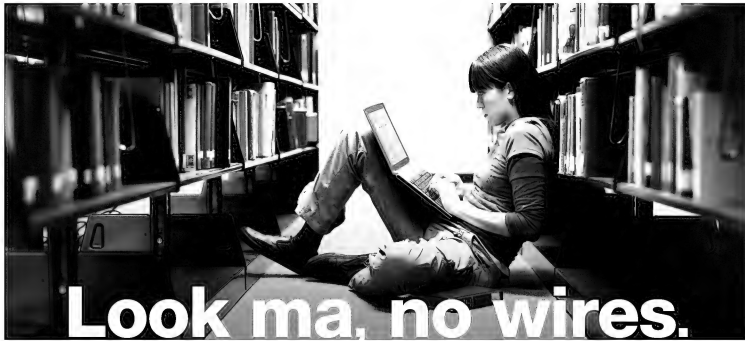
Kiss Me,

Kiss Me,

Hug Me,

Hug Me,

Kiss and
Coress Me



Let's face facts, here – the single most important tool for any college or university student is a wireless notebook.

Campus life is unwired. Experience the freedom.

An increasing number of Canadian campuses are spearheading the wireless revolution – WLAN (wireless local area network) 'hotspots' are providing students, faculty and staff access to a high-speed Internet connection – whether they're surfing the Net in the library, participating in online discussion groups in the café or even checking e-mail outside in the fresh air of the courtyard.

No cables. No wires. No cords. No kidding.

In fact, a whopping 70 percent of the top Canadian universities are equipped with these hotspots. For example, one of Canada's larger universities enjoys over 2,000 subscribers to its cable-free network in 25 of its buildings. As the technology continues to proliferate, it's estimated that up to 20,000 students will sign up for wireless access, covering the entire campus.

Needless to say, the student in your household should take advantage of this new-found freedom.

Toshiba notebooks equipped with Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology feature longer battery life, so a student burning the midnight oil to finish an essay doesn't need to worry about lugging around a power adapter or being confined to residence.

These notebooks also feature integrated wireless capability tested and optimized to connect seamlessly to hotspots across Canada and around the world.

Consider the other advantages of this wireless freedom:

- students away from home for the first time can keep in touch with family and friends with the click of a mouse – wherever they may be on or around campus. A webcam video chat with mom while sipping a cup of coffee in the cafeteria? Why not?
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Summer school is nothing more than a big, fat waste of my parents' money

Apathetic professors, easy marks make summer session a waste of good weather



KRISTINE
OWRHAM

I've never felt so guilty about spending \$1500 of my parents' money in my entire life.

No, I'm not talking about that cooking competition I held the other day to see how many dishes it's possible to make out of Yangtze River dolphin meat (the answer is eight). At least that had some educational value. What I'm talking about is something much less constructive: summer school.

Since I started university, not a summer has gone by when I haven't taken at least one or two classes, thanks entirely to the newspaper you're reading. I've been aware from the beginning that summer school doesn't offer the same educational value as the regular term, but this never really bothered me when I was in classes like Stats 141 or Psych 104.

Unfortunately, having finished all my mandatory science credits, this summer I was forced into taking classes I actually had some interest in. While I knew it was kind of a shame to enrol in perfectly good classes during the summer, I wasn't prepared for what a depressing experience it would turn out to be.

I kicked off spring session with a night class, and while I actually learned a lot, it was entirely through the textbook, the occasional guest speaker, and the endless amounts of videos we watched. What's worse, you could tell the prof had a genuine interest in the subject, but was obviously taking the class about as seriously as we were, at least judging by the lectures, which were taken directly from the textbook.

However, this prof turned out to be the hardest-working person in the world compared to the freeloader I had in summer session.

Seriously: this guy showed up between ten and 20 minutes late for every class, his lectures were totally unplanned, our lunch breaks were routinely cut short by half because he didn't watch the clock while he was rambling on about something completely unrelated to the course, and we didn't even get through the syllabus

because he ran out of time. He treated the class like it was a 400-level course for honours students, when in reality it was an introduction for people with no background in the subject whatsoever. And, worst of all, he gave us an 800-page textbook to read in five weeks—this when we would be spending six hours a day, five days a week in class.

Summer school is a joke. Students take it to get easy marks and professors teach it to get easy money.

Of course, no one takes professors who act like this seriously. By the end of the session, it had gotten to the point where students would walk into class over two hours late, but there was nothing he could reasonably say or do when he was consistently late himself. On top of this, I didn't open the textbook once. I wrote all my papers the night before they were due. I didn't study at all for the final, and I pulled off an A—.

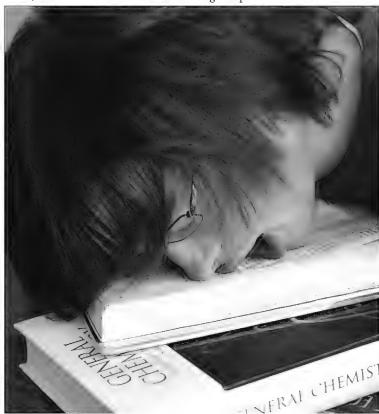
Yes, I'm the laziest person in the world, but it does bother me when

I can get A's by doing essentially no work. A's are something only the best students should be able to earn through working their asses off, not something half the class gets just by showing up.

Summer school is a joke. Students take it to get easy marks and professors teach it to get easy money. Unfortunately, more and more students are forced to take summer classes to finish their degrees around full-time jobs, and their educations are being cheapened as a result.

There's no easy solution to this, as a culture of laziness seems to have developed around summer school. As long as courses are being condensed into half the time (or, worse, a quarter of the time, as was the case with the six-credit course I took this summer), it's going to be hard to convince students and professors that they need to be doing twice the work to get their money's worth.

The only obvious answer seems to be the adoption of a three-term system, where summer would be a full term like fall and winter. This will stretch summer classes out, give professors and students more time to prepare, teach, learn, and complete assignments, and, most importantly, free up my time to hold more endangered-animal cooking competitions.



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SARAH
HANASK

Remember the days when mom could tell you to "go play" and you could basically just find some random neighbourhood children, throw mud at each other for two hours, then finally give up by declaring yourself the supreme winner of whatever the hell game it was that you just made up? No one questioned why you were the winner, because it was you who made up all the rules. And had the most Barbies.

Unfortunately, today people rely heavily on TV to provide that healthy dose of competitive sport that both prevents the decline of obesity and helps rank the awesomeness of every major country based on how "rhythmic" its gymnasts are. Such is that national pride that only the Olympics can bring, allowing Canadians to celebrate together as monumentally as possible because collectively we know that our medal-winning abilities are like our hilarious sitcoms: almost non-existent. However, unlike in childhood, we assume the Olympics will exhibit a tad less disquietude regarding official winners, lest we award based on who hasn't run home crying from mud in the eye.

It's because of this that I found

myself regarding many of the events this summer with greater skepticism and reservations over any "victory" an athlete could achieve. And most of my dubiousness stemmed from the ambiguity of including judged events in said games. The subjectivity of allowing marks to be awarded by a panel of judges—many of whom have political and personal agendas—diminishes the intrinsic reputability of medalling. Not to assume that every judge has enmity against athletes from any other particular country, but one cannot assume that they do not, either. Events such as diving or gymnastics—though they take extremely focused and talented athletes to perform—do not belong in the same category as events such as running or swimming, where objective, specific results can be achieved concretely. It's simple: the person who crosses the finish line first, wins.

This then becomes an issue of where to draw this crooked line of division through the vast array of physical activities that we have come to include in this label of "sport." I agree that gymnasts literally train their asses off to achieve the agility and flexibility they require, but can we technically call this a sport? Yes there are competitions in effect to determine the best, but there are competitions in dancing or cheer-leading too, and so far these activities haven't been deemed Olympic worthy, despite certain beach volleyball competitions.

We've all witnessed the problems: Salt Lake City in 2002 disappointed

thousands of Canadians when Jamie Salé and David Pelletier were originally denied the gold in pairs figure skating over the Russians, but luckily after a few weeks and much backlash against the French judge, a second gold was granted.

Even this summer brought more uproar based on subjectivity and errors in judging. American gymnast Paul Hamm became the first American man to win gold in the combined event after judges incorrectly scored Korean Yang Tae Young's parallel bars routine, failing to give him the required points for his level of difficulty and thus bumping him to bronze. Or how about Canadian gymnast Kyle Shewfelt receiving fourth in the men's vault competition despite the fall by Romanian bronze winner Marian Drăgulescu?

These athletes enter the Olympics with hopes and expectations of a fair and accurate appraisal of their talent, yet too often these same competitors are stripped of what they rightly deserve based on something as simple as flaws in scrutiny or carelessness.

Until every judge from every country can become perfectly impartial, nondiscriminatory, and just plain competent in their duties, we will continue to see these controversies. As a nation we have a love-hate relationship with our Olympic athletes, and when they deserve gold, we damn well better praise each and every one who has spent the required years training for the prestigious Olympic gold.

All three of them.

The 'Big Idea' is nothing but a big joke



TONY
SANTIN

strengthening our economic position on the world stage.

This concept is at best a shortsighted pipe dream for several reasons. For starters, that these groups would give away our sovereignty through moves like adopting the US dollar as our currency is no secret, but for what? Some sort of new union based solely on our economic needs? That hardly sounds like the basis for any sort of long-term arrangement.

**Would we have any
real say as members of
what would essentially
be an expanded USA?**

For example, Michael Adams, a published sociologist, showed in his book *Fire and Ice* that the values held by both Canadians and Americans are in fact divergent rather than convergent. This is found to be the case in several issues, such as that of the role of government, the duties of law enforcement, and the trustworthiness of corporations.

Even recent media coverage highlights our differing views on issues such as marijuana decriminalization and healthcare. Compare what CBC and, say, CBS, have to say on such topics regarding the opinions on their respective sides of the border. How

could anyone build any sort of new arrangement when such differences exist?

And if this did happen, it is obvious who would be calling all the shots. Would we have any real say as members of what would essentially be an expanded USA? The current US government has trouble enough listening to its own people, let alone those of a new nation.

You can even look back in history to find an example: in 1707, the Act of Union brought together England and Scotland to create the United Kingdom in the name of commerce. But while greater prosperity did reach Scotland, England was clearly in control of the arrangement; Edinburgh had, and continues to have, nothing on London. It is a similar scenario in the European Union: France and Germany continue to dominate the scene in spite of cooperation between the UK, Spain, Portugal and Italy.

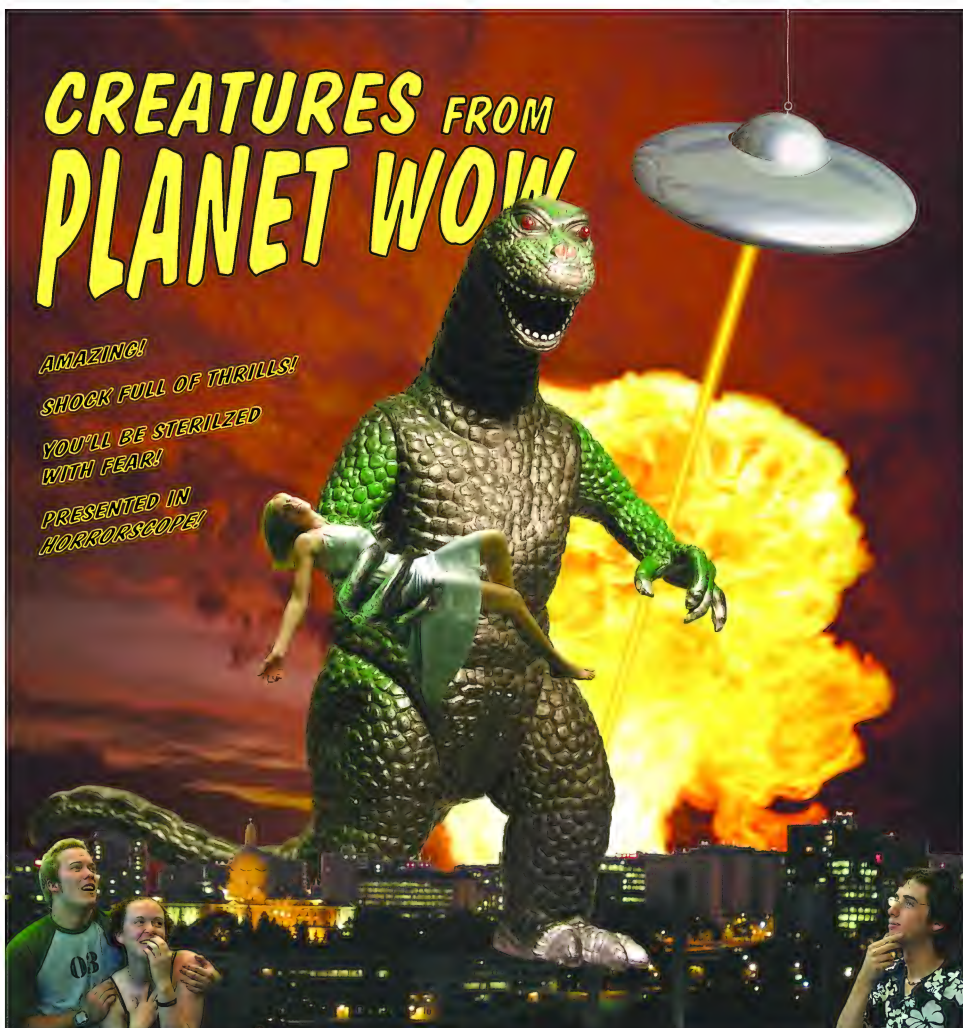
So if money and wealth is removed from the mix, what is left of "the Big Idea"? It seems that the only consideration that the Fraser and CD Howe Institutes have given to any true uniting factors in such an arrangement is a common greed. Suppose that one day the US is no longer the world economic giant. Then what?

To this writer, anyway, "the Big Idea" should remain exactly that: an idea, and nothing more.

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Fischer's trial a political chess game



CHRIS SAMUEL

When you talk chess, you can't help but mention the name Bobby Fischer. Many consider him the greatest player ever to move a pawn. The man, quite literally, revolutionized the game of chess. And now, he's being extradited from Japan and put on trial.

For those unaware, Fischer's moment of glory came in 1972 in a match against reigning champion Boris Spassky. At the time, the Russian grandmaster was as much a symbol of communist power as the Soviet hockey team. This match would be the Cold War played out on a 64-square board, more about communism versus democracy than black versus white.

When the match started, it looked like democracy was getting its butt kicked. Angry at himself for the careless blunder that cost him the first game, Fischer didn't show up for the second. It took a call from then-Secretary-of-State Henry Kissinger to convince him to continue playing. He went on to win the highly-publicized match and was lauded as a hero in America.

The popularization of chess took off from that point. Instead of wanting to emulate Wilt Chamberlain, young boys wanted to be like Bobby Fischer. Well, maybe not, but in any case chess masters went from social outcasts working two jobs to highly-paid tutors and instructors.

Fast-forward 20 years to 1992, for Spassky versus Fischer II. Even though Fischer had lost the title in '75 by failing to defend it, he still was being hailed as the reigning world champion of chess. Although Fischer lived as a recluse, the match purse of a reported \$3.3 million US was enough to lure him out of hiding.

Even after a 20-year absence from the chessboard, Fischer repeated his '72 victory. However, because the match was being played in the UN-embargoed Yugoslavia, the US government issued a warrant for his arrest, citing a violation of trade

sanctions as its basis. In July of the same year, he was arrested in Japan and is currently going through the extradition process.

Yes, you read that correctly. Bobby Fischer, the only American to ever win the World Chess Federation world championship, is wanted for arrest—because he played a game of chess. He is being deported from his home in Japan, away from his fiancée Miyoko Watai (the president of the Japanese Chess Association), and is being put on trial for playing chess two years ago in Yugoslavia. Everyone else involved with the match—from the organizers to the officials to the sponsors—weren't charged with a single offense.

One can't help but wonder if this is as anything to do with his outlandish political views; he has been mildly described as fervently anti-Semitic, and has unsuccessfully attempted to renounce his US citizenship on numerous occasions. His comments after 11 September were, to put it lightly, completely lacking in any human compassion. Fischer quite honestly believes that the world is being run by a global Jewish conspiracy—this despite being of Jewish heritage himself. Despite his brilliance on the board, he seems to have lost the ability to view the world rationally, which has subsequently led to the witch hunt unfolding in the news.

However outlandish his views may be, it does not justify tipping him away from the life he has established for himself in Japan. The charges being laid against him seem to have more to do with politics than with the law. Why haven't other people involved in the match been charged? Bobby Fischer still has a loyal following in the chess community, and the American government knows it. You think, maybe, his harsh criticism of the American handling of the situation in the Balkans has anything to do with his deportation? The whole situation reeks of freedom of speech violations.

Thirty years ago, nobody would have guessed that Bobby Fischer, the man who single-handedly took down the Soviet chess machine, would become a political victim of an American government intent on silencing all of its critics. And here I thought that democracy had won the Cold War.

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Chrétien was a great prime minister

He brought us peace of mind, even if we rarely understood him



ROSS PRUSAKOWSKI

Jean Chrétien was one of the best prime ministers Canada ever had. I don't care what Paul Martin, Ralph Klein or the National Post has to say. He may not have been a great diplomat or visionary and we may not have always understood what he said in either official language, but Chrétien took a nation out of the destruction of the '80s and into the prosperity of the twenty-first century, all the while making Canada a better country.

For Canada, the '80s were a bummer: the country was worn out from a constant cycle of separation attempts, alienation and constitutional crises where nothing got done, but the politicians still collected paychecks.

Not counting the close shave of the Québec referendum and Alberta's constant griping on nearly every issue, Chrétien provided a decade of relative calm and quiet on the political front, something we pinned for. The "Chicken Little" existence of a country always on the edge of a divorce was over and people came to realize we had a great country—not perfect, but great nonetheless.

Sure, from time to time Québec, Alberta and other provinces would bitch and moan about issues, but Chrétien, always the great uniter, put the national good above pandering to regional demands, and we loved him for it. Don't believe me? The numbers speak for themselves: every time he went, hat in hand, to the electorate seeking another term, we gave it to him, each

time with a bigger majority.

Now, he may have devastated the Canadian Forces, ignored protests on gun control, and expanded upon the deeply engrained tradition of patronage, but he gave us confidence and prosperity, things much more important than a few broken promises. In the decade of the friendly dictatorship a \$42 billion deficit disappeared, research on campuses all over Canada was given a boost and the economy thrived, allowing people to find work and prosper. You can deny it, but his term in office was good for Canada and improved our place in the world economy—even if we still have GST.

Even in his last few months in office, Chrétien attempted to make discerning changes to legislation and move in the direction the Canadian majority supported. His stances on same-sex marriage and the decriminalization of marijuana incited debate and forced all Canadians to consider what type of society they wanted. Though the specific bills did not pass during his time in office, Chrétien forced the issues into the national consciousness and decided that there needed to be changes to Canadian society.

All that aside, Chrétien's greatest and most important decision as prime minister is the one that will give him his sought-after legacy and a place among the greats in Canadian history: standing apart from the US on the war in Iraq and listening to the Canadian public, he has left an indelible mark of our independence from the United States. This is the way of action that the sands of time cannot wash away.

While he may not seem great at first glance, and probably strikes many as more of a meddling, caretaker prime minister who antagonized people more than anything, Jean Chrétien has done more than enough to mark him among the great prime ministers of Canada. Not that that's a really hard club to join, mind you.

A golden outlook for Bears football

After their first playoff win in 22 years last fall, expectations are skyrocketing for the gridiron Green and Gold

JAKE TROUGHTON
Sports Editor

Sometimes, just one win can go a long way toward raising a team's expectations.

When that one win comes in the playoffs, and it's the team's first post-season triumph in over two decades, it has a way of sending those expectations through the roof.

For the Golden Bears football team, last November's 10-4 semi-final victory over the Saskatchewan Huskies—who had gone undefeated in the regular season and were ranked first in the nation at the time—was that kind of win. After spending years among the lowest-ranked teams in the country, the Bears are suddenly being considered a legitimate Vanier Cup contender as they prepare for the 2004 regular

season this Saturday in Regina against the Rams.

However, Bears head coach Jerry Friesen insisted on being more modest in his own expectations.

"At minimum, we want to be better than we were last year," he said. "There's not a whole bunch of difference between the top four or five teams in this league. Everybody's competitive."

The excitement generated by the win over the Huskies last year has sometimes obscured the fact that the Bears finished tied with Calgary with only a 4-4 record in the regular season, earning the fourth and final playoff spot in Canada West only by virtue of having won the season series against the Dinos. Yet at the same time the team's four losses were by a combined seven points, which Friesen argued is a sign that the team is ready to take their game to the

next level.

"The foundation is in place. The guys have played together for a year, we've matured, and we're still growing," he said. "We had an opportunity to learn from those close games, and now it's a matter of taking that one or two steps further, and instead of losing by one or two, we win by one or two. Or more than that," he added with a laugh.

There are definite reasons for optimism heading into this season. As he enters his fourth year of eligibility, starting quarterback Darryl Salmon, who was injured at the end of last year and didn't play in the playoffs, is "100 per cent [healthy], throwing the ball well," according to Friesen. The team will also see the return of 18 of last year's 24 starters on offense and defense, giving them much greater roster conti-

nity than some other teams in the conference, including the Rams.

Friesen expressed confidence that the team he's assembled will prove able to carry on the momentum of last season, and maybe even meet some of those newly-raised expectations.

"I think we took one step last year, and everybody worked hard in the off-season, so we just want to see how far we can push ourselves with the group of guys that we've got."

THE NEW CREW

The Bears offence, which averaged a stellar 37.8 points per game through six games last year before Salmon was injured, lost three starters from last year. The biggest loss was all-star receiver Andrew Ford, who transferred to the Emily Carr Institute of Arts & Design in Vancouver. Jason Moss and Matt Burrows will split time in an effort to replace him. "The athleticism of Andrew Ford, it'll take us a while to get that back," said Friesen. "But both [Moss and Burrows] are quality receivers, with great speed."

Second-year lineman Scott Schriver played himself into the starting right guard position during a live scrimmage against Calgary last week, which the Bears won 18-10, while Friesen said he'd wait until after this weekend to decide who will earn the right tackle spot.

On defense, the entire starting line from last season has returned, and the one vacancy at linebacker has been filled by Neil Ternovatsky, who played halfback for the Bears last year.

The defensive secondary, on the other hand, lost two of five starters, including Landon White, who was drafted by the CFL's Montreal Alouettes. Derek Baldry and Steven Boyko are expected to fill the holes. "The secondary is where we've got the least amount of game experience," said Friesen. "[Baldry and Boyko] have got the skills, now it's just a matter of getting enough repetitions during the game."

On special teams, the graduation of punter/placemaker Mark Wojcikowski may hurt the Bears. His replacement, Beau Filkowski, was solely a placemaker before transferring here from Minot State, and is still adjusting to the punting job.



JEFFREY GREENAUS

READY TO RUN Golden Bears footballers prepare for Saturday's season opener in Regina.

Sam Montgomery dives in as new U of A swim coach

ROSS PRUSAKOWSKI
Sports Writer

After dropping out of the top ten at Nationals for the balance of the last three years, the University of Alberta's swim program is aiming for a revival after handing the reins to new head coach Sam Montgomery last month.

Montgomery takes over a program that will host the nation's best at the CIS championships in February, but finished only tenth on the women's side and twelfth on the men's side last year. He most recently served at Swim Alberta, where he was the Director of Swimming for four years. He has also coached around Canada for the last 25 years and served as an assistant coach with the national program.

"It's good to get back to this level of swimming; I find it challenging and inspiring to work with athletes who are motivated and inspired to swim their very best," said Montgomery.

Montgomery's coaching experience will be instrumental in turning around the fortunes of the flagging program that in the past consistently placed high at Canada West and CIS championships. However, being a head coach at the university level will be different from his past position, as the majority of the decision making power will rest on his shoulders and Montgomery will be on deck with swimmers

nearly every day.

"The accountability will lie with me," he said. "So if a swimmer doesn't perform well and they've done the program I've prescribed for them, then there is something wrong with the program."

Montgomery is looking to revamp the way the team and individual athletes train. His plans include more focused training on each athlete's specializations than was previously the case. Montgomery hopes this will enable the team to allow more options for different athletes while still maintaining the distance focus of his predecessors, co-coaches John Vadeika, who has accepted a position with Swim Ontario, and Marc Tremblay.

"The University of Alberta has declined slightly from four years ago when the previous coaches took over. The first objective will be to get us back on track and into the top five of CIS," said Montgomery. "We are going to modify a lot of what was here, but we are also going to keep the elements that worked."

Unfortunately, taking over deep into the summer means that Montgomery will have little opportunity to recruit new athletes for this year's team. However, with his experience and contacts across the country, Montgomery says he's optimistic about the future of the team.

"The key challenge to winning is in the

recruiting of top athletes," he said. "The prospects in the future for recruiting are going to be very good because of the contacts I have, and maybe with a new coaching staff in place those athletes who may have dropped out of the sport

may be more inclined to return."

For this year, though, Montgomery will have little time to prepare; tryouts for the Bears and Pandas swim teams begin next Wednesday, only a month after he joined the program.



LEANNE FORD

HE'S GOT SOME WORK TO DO New Pandas and Bears swimming head coach Sam Montgomery is trying to rebuild the program as it prepares to host Nationals in February.



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- 4 General Faculties Councillor Seats

Augustana

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Education

- 2 Students' Union Councillor Seats
- 4 General Faculties Councillor Seats

Medicine and Dentistry

- 2 General Faculties Councillor Seats

Native Studies

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Nursing

- 2 Students' Union Councillor Seats
- 2 General Faculties Councillor Seats

Open Studies

- 2 Students' Union Councillor Seats

Physical Education and Recreation

- 1 Students' Union Councillor Seat
- 1 General Faculties Councillor Seat

Rehabilitation Medicine

- 1 Students' Union Councillor Seat
- 1 General Faculties Councillor Seat

Faculté Saint-Jean

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- 1 General Faculties Councillor Seat

Science

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- 1 General Faculties Councillor Seat

Nomination Packages are available from 2-900 SUB, 3-02K SUB, or online at www.su.ualberta.ca/vote.

Nominations are due on September 14 at 6:00pm.

vote
STUDENTS' UNION ELECTIONS 2004

Hoops Pandas look to bounce back

Team brings in seven recruits after disastrous 2003/04 season

ASIA SZKUDLAREK
Sports Writer

In varsity sports, where a five-year limit on careers ensures heavy annual player turnover, change is inevitable. However, when a talk with Pandas basketball head coach Trix Baker includes words like "rejuvenation," you can bet that this year's team is going through more than just a few minor alterations.

"It's going to be a really interesting year, because I'm going to have many new faces on our team," said Baker, referring to the seven recruits currently waiting in line for a shot at playing with the Pandas. "Having this kind of a turnover is going to be a totally new experience for everybody. You don't see that too often, especially in a Canada West team. You might see it in a struggling team in another conference, but in Canada West, this is pretty unusual."

Central to the team's facelift is the addition of several new players, who, despite being rookies at the university level, are no strangers to elite basketball competition.

Point guard Kara Stevens, guard Whitney Adams, and forward Nathalie Kiernan have all played at the provincial level in the past. And while forward Lauren Colborne, post Kristin

Jarock, and point guard Ashley Wigg have had only high school and club basketball experience, Baker said she's confident in the commitment and vigour that they'll bring to the game.

"The bottom line is we didn't make the playoffs last year. And the year before, we finished eighth and lost out the first round of playoffs, and for me that's just not good enough."

PANDAS BASKETBALL
HEAD COACH TRIX BAKER

Another player who is expected to step in and contribute right away is Calgarian forward Trish Arris, who Baker said reminds her of past Pandas superstar Rania Burns.

"Rania was really instrumental in the intensity that she brought every day, and I see a lot of that in Trish," she said. "I think that she really gets after it every minute that she's on the court. She loves to play, and she does with passion."

In addition to losing key players—such as graduated guard Diane Smith—the team has also found itself without starter Christine Shewchuk, who was lost to what Baker described as a "plague of injuries." From ankle and foot surgeries to stress fractures, many Pandas haven't been spared any trips to the operating room. Although Baker admitted that the complete elimination of nagging injuries is impossible, one of her major goals for the upcoming season is training the team to be stronger and healthier to hopefully reduce the frequency of trips to the infirmary.

"Last year we would do [drills] after practice, and I think we had 14 to 15 people involved in our program, and we had eight people out there, with six or seven who weren't capable of doing it. I don't think that helps to build team unity; it doesn't help to solidify the purpose of your team. So we're really looking to make changes that way," she explained.

"The bottom line is we didn't make the playoffs last year. And the year before, we finished eighth and lost out the first round of playoffs, and for me that's just not good enough. We have to try to rejuvenate the team, and that's what we're hoping to do with all of these young kids."



DIVING FOR PUCKS Gilles Benoit of the Edmonton Underwater Hockey Association prepares for a game. Read all about it in next Thursday's Gateway.

FROM THE SPORTS EDITOR

You may have noticed that there've been a few changes in the Gateway sports section to start off this year.

We wanted to make it easier for readers to follow not only the Golden Bears and Pandas, but also the Canada West conference and CIS in general. To that end, we've introduced a stats page, the first of which is on page 25. Among other items, it'll include standings, results and upcoming schedules for Canada West, which will hopefully provide greater perspective on the progress of Alberta's teams.

We've also moved the Sports in Brief column off the first sports page, which will hopefully give the section a cleaner look, and we'll use it to cover stories from around the conference, as well as any Pandas and Bears news that isn't covered elsewhere in the section.

We hope the Gateway will be your destination of choice for info on all 21 Alberta squads. Please let us know what you think about the new look. E-mail: sports@gateway.ualberta.ca

at any point during the year with your thoughts on the stats page, Sports in Brief, or the section in general.

DRAMA
PRESENTS
RTS



A Doll's House
by Henrik Ibsen
Sept. 23—October 2, 2004

The 7 Dwarfs
by Kevin Kling
November 4—13, 2004

Moving Pictures
by Sharon Pollock
December 2—11, 2004

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University of Regina athletics director elected next president of CIS

CHRIS JASTER
The Carillon

REGINA (CUP)—University of Regina athletic director Dick White will be the next president of Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS).

The Canada West president won the position at the CIS annual general meeting in June. He ran uncontested. He will take the reins of CIS when current President Drew Love's term expires on 6 June 2005.

"It's not a bad thing that he was the only one nominated," said CIS Chief Executive Officer Marg McGregor. "It means he's clearly viewed as an excellent candidate by his peers."

Although White was appreciative of the endorsement his fellow athletic directors gave him, by not nominating any other candidates, he expressed concern about what that means for CIS.

"I'm somewhat disappointed that there is not more interest in the leadership roles in the organization," said White. "But I also understand that CIS is in a bit of transition in the experience of athletic directors. Some are near the end of their career and not wanting this role, and some are relatively new and not prepared to assume a presidential position."

Although the job is a volunteer position, White will perform many duties, including serving as chair at meetings of the CIS board of directors and the annual general meeting, providing direction to the board, and being a spokesperson and leader for the organization.

CIS is expecting to face several key challenges as White takes over, most notably the negotiation of new television broadcast agreements. The previous deal with TSN, which expired last spring, has not been renewed, and the organization is not expecting to reach a new multi-year agreement with any broadcaster this year.



CALL HIM MR PRESIDENT CIS president-elect Dick White.

COURTESY OF THE CARILLON

"I hope to provide leadership through difficult issues and present a balanced perspective," said White. "I am a believer in creating a framework for success by maximizing the opportunity for our staff and the CIS committees to do the work of CIS."

Mike McTeague, assistant director of athletics at the University of Alberta, applauded White's election and said that the president-elect should prove to be an ally of the U of A at the CIS level.

"I think he has a philosophy that is consistent with ours in terms of trying to achieve excellence [in university sport]," McTeague said of White. "He believes in athletic-related scholarships for student-athletes, and I think we need to have somebody in the CIS

president position who does firmly believe in the importance of that."

McTeague noted that the position has frequently been held by athletics directors from Ontario, where universities tend to focus on participation rather than excellence as a goal. He suggested that electing a president from a Canada West school may signal a shift in the direction of CIS.

"[It's] putting enough resources into CIS sports that you have a chance of achieving excellence. You're going beyond participation," he said of the western school of thought. "They just have a different philosophy [in Ontario]. I'm not saying it's wrong, but it makes it difficult for us to achieve what we want to at the CIS level."

It's time for students to fill the stands



CHRIS
OLEARY

Sports
Commentary

Many of you are probably making a lot of crazy promises to yourselves right now. For instance, to never leave assignments to the last minute, to have perfect attendance, to stop getting drunk on weeknights, and to really try this year.

No doubt these are all admirable aspirations, but let's be real here: between the time I've written this and the time you're reading it, you've probably already broken at least two of the four. So instead of building yourself up with false hopes of achievement that will only leave you feeling like less of a person for failing, why not make a promise right now that's easy to hold to and benefits more people than just you: promise to come out to a Golden Bears or Pandas event this year.

There are plenty of good reasons to check out the U of A teams this year. First off, this is the best ticket in town, local pro-sports included. You can't beat the combination of a high level of athletics and a dirt-cheap price of admission (only \$4). Try to find out what \$4 will get you at an Oilers, Eskimos or Trappers game; after the

laughter subsides, the beer guy will break out the eyedrop dispenser to deliver your purchase.

But it's more than just the cheap tickets; it's about sports being played the way they're supposed to be played. It's about elite athletes without the elitist treatment. You're not going to see our football players driving to school in Mercedes. If an athlete's parents live in a mansion, you can be assured that it wasn't because of a "goodwill gesture" from the University. There are no financial perks and no special treatment—just Canada's best athletes competing against each other for six months of the year.

If an athlete's parents live in a mansion, you can be assured that it wasn't because of a "goodwill gesture" from the University.

And unlike a certain hockey team that Edmontonians love to love, the Bears and Pandas are extremely competitive; last year they had five different squads end their seasons with national medals around their necks. Both the basketball and volleyball teams face international competition every year and they always prove up to the challenge. The volleyball and Bears basketball teams are consistently

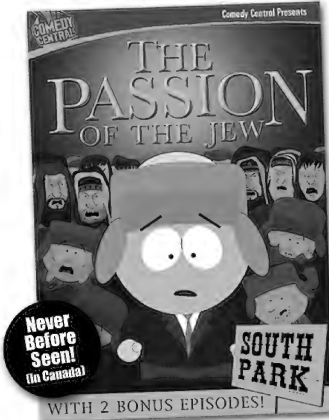
ranked in the top ten and the Pandas hoopers are set to make a huge move this year with seven top recruits and some key players healed up after sitting out last season.

The volleyball Pandas will be in contention for their first championship in five years after falling just short of the gold medal in last season's final. The football team won its first playoff game in 22 years. Oh, and the women's hockey, rugby and men's soccer teams all won national championships. So, unlike at an Oilers game, you're not hoping to see the home team come out and surprise the opposition. Our athletics program is the best in the country.

The Pandas and Bears just about have it all: great athletes who compete and win, and who can be seen at a steal of a price. The only thing that's missing is the people. Bears hockey and football aside, the turnout is lacking—and even crowds of 2000 and change only look good compared to attendance at other CIS schools. These fantastic athletes deserve better.

We're at the start of a long school year, and after a week that's probably seen you stumble out of the "Plant or beer gardens after a day of drinking your student loan, you owe it to yourself to stick to the one promise that you'll enjoy keeping. Over the next seven months, help fill the seats at Bears and Pandas games and take advantage of the best athletics deal Edmonton has to offer.

Oh Lord, What Were They Thinking?



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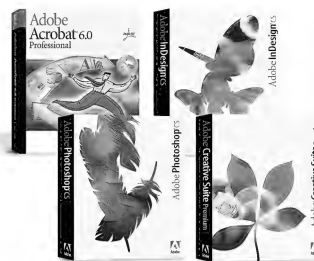
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Tomorrow, we won't have the Trappers to cheat on

It seems Edmonton's just not cut out to be a three-woman town



ROSS MOROZ

Sports Commentary

When it comes to supporting our sports teams, Edmonton is a little bit of a "playa." We're basically trying to date three women—the Oil, the Traps—at the same time, and we're too big of a jerk to give any one of them the sweet loving they deserve.

So we toy with our teams, intermittently losing interest and ignoring them until they inevitably threaten to leave us like the man-whore we are. And usually this "I'm leaving you, Edmonton" thing works; the Oilers pull this routine perennially and we suddenly respond with flowers, chocolates and season ticket purchases. So when it was announced last year that the Edmonton Trappers were finally ditching us years of neglect and disinterest, I expected a typically Edmontonian outpouring of hand-wringing and support. That this fan orgy never materialized speaks to why the Trappers are leaving in the first place.

The reason the Trap hasn't been the beneficiary of a much-needed interest is simply a matter of rank. In the Edmonton pro sports troika, the

Trappers are a distant third—the bronze medalist in a two-horse race. To mis metaphors even further, it might help to think of Edmonton not as a city but as Archie Andrews. The Oilers, then, are Veronica—flashy, hot to trot, and high maintenance—while the comfortable, dependable Eskimos are Betty. That makes the Trappers ... Midge? Who knows, and who cares, because after chasing Betty and Veronica around all year, Archie doesn't really have the time or energy to buy tickets to another girl. Or something.

The Oilers, then, are Veronica—flashy, hot to trot, and high maintenance—while the comfortable, dependable Eskimos are Betty. That makes the Trappers ... Midge? That girl Moose was dating?

Of course, Edmontonians' complete lack of interest in baseball didn't help either. Ignore that tacky rotating bat on 97 street; Edmonton is no Cooperstown. Just go to a Trappers game and you'll see what I mean:

a blistering triple play is celebrated with polite applause; an error that allows the other team to score in the park-home is greeted with polite applause; Homer the dancing baseball is toasted with polite applause. It's a shame, too, because Triple-A ball is actually a pretty impressive level of play, far closer to the Major Leagues than, say, the AHL is to the NHL, to use an example Joe Edmonton might comprehend.

Personally, I have always enjoyed going to see the Trappers, and would even consider myself a fan. But even in their last year of play here, I've only managed to get out to the park twice. This speaks less to my admitted laziness than the simple fact that, with precious few pleasant summer evenings to enjoy, things like the lake, the Fringe, the backyard BBQ or the patio at Black Dog usually squeeze out the Trappers, which is really more my fault than theirs. I doubt even the Oilers would get much of a crowd if they had to compete with the late-July trio of plus thirty, beer tents and green onion cakes.

As of press time, there were still tickets left for tonight's game—the last Edmonton Trappers home game ever. So why not blow the \$11.50 and learn how to say goodbye to a nice girl who got mixed up with a bad town. Or, you know, watch the World Cup of Hockey or something. We always liked her better, anyway.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Radio

University of Alberta athletics and CJSR have reached a deal to keep hockey and football on the air for a 20th season. Bob Stauffer will return as the play-by-play voice of Golden Bears football and hockey. For football, beginning with Saturday's season opener in Regina, he'll be joined in the booth by former Edmonton Eskimo Blake Marshall, while Edmonton Sun sports writer Scott Zerr will again provide colour commentary on hockey broadcasts.

Football

The regular season in Canada West gets underway tomorrow night, as the Saskatchewan Huskies roll into Calgary to face the Dinos. The Huskies went undefeated during last year's regular season before losing to Alberta in the first round of the playoffs, and enter the year as a heavy favourite to win the conference. Calgary, meanwhile, will be looking to improve after barely missing out on the final playoff spot last year. Their 4-4 record put them in a tie with Alberta for fourth place, but they lost the tiebreaker and placed fifth.

Action continues Saturday afternoon as the UBC Thunderbirds fly east to take on the Manitoba Bisons. Both teams missed the playoffs last season, with UBC posting a 0-8 record. The defending conference champion Simon Fraser Clan start the year off with a bye.

If you can't wait until the Bears' home opener on 18 September to watch some OS football, you have TSN's french affiliate RDS on digital cable or satellite, you're in luck. RDS will be showing three Quebec games this week, beginning tonight at 5pm MDT when the Montréal

Carabins host the McGill Redmen. They'll also show the Bishops Galters at Sherbrooke Vert et Or game Saturday at 5pm, and Sunday's niam match between the Concordia Stingrays and the defending Vanier Cup champion Laval Rouge et Or.

Soccer

Bears soccer will travel to Vancouver for a pair of exhibition matches next week. They'll visit Langara College on Wednesday before facing UBC on Thursday. The Bears and Pandas both open their regular seasons in Lethbridge against the Pronghorns on 18 September.

Field hockey

The Pandas field hockey squad is in Holland for a series of exhibition matches against Dutch clubs. They posted a 0-1-2 record in their first three games.

They'll begin conference play on 24 September, and will host this year's CIS national championship from 4-7 November at Foote Field.

Basketball

The Simon Fraser Clan and UBC Thunderbirds basketball teams will face a rare challenge when they each play a pair of exhibition matches against Division I NCAA teams. The University of Texas women's team, a national championship favourite, will play each Vancouver team twice. The men's Clan and T-Birds will each face both the UNLV and Kansas, an Elite Eight finisher in last year's NCAA tournament.

The games are the first of several scheduled meetings between CIS and NCAA teams this year. The Golden Bears, along with the Calgary Dinos, will join in the action in November when they travel south to take on the Montana State Bobcats and Brigham Young Cougars.

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Wednesday, September 8th	9:00am - 7:00pm
Thursday, September 9th	9:00am - 7:00pm

Regular hours
(9:00-5:00 M-F, 11:00-4:00 Sat.) resume Friday, September 10th, 2004.



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THE STATS PAGE

Football

Canada West standings

Team	GP	W	L	T	OTL	PF	PA	PTS
Simon Fraser	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alberta	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Saskatchewan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Regina	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calgary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manitoba	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
UBC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Exhibition scrimmage
(27 August at Raymond, AB)

Alberta 18 Calgary 10

Week one schedule

Friday

Saskatchewan @ Calgary 7pm

Saturday

UBC @ Manitoba 1pm

Alberta @ Regina 7pm (CJSR)

Complete Golden Bears regular season schedule
(all games on CJSR; all home games at Foote Field)

Date	Game
Saturday, 4 September, 7pm	Alberta @ Regina
Saturday, 11 September, 1:30pm	Alberta @ Saskatchewan
Saturday, 18 September, 7pm	UBC @ Alberta
Saturday, 25 September, 8pm	Alberta @ Simon Fraser
Saturday, 2 October, 7pm	Calgary @ Alberta
Saturday, 9 October, 12pm	Alberta @ Manitoba
Saturday, 16 October, 2pm	Regina @ Alberta
Saturday, 23 October, 2pm	Saskatchewan @ Alberta

Men's Soccer

Complete Golden Bears regular season schedule
(all home games at Foote Field)

Date	Game
Saturday, 18 September, 2pm	Alberta @ Lethbridge
Sunday, 19 September, 2:15pm	Alberta @ Calgary
Saturday, 25 September, 12pm	Trinity Western @ Alberta
Sunday, 26 September, 12pm	Victoria @ Alberta
Friday, 1 October, 4pm	Alberta @ Saskatchewan
Sunday, 3 October, 12pm	Saskatchewan @ Alberta
Friday, 15 October, 2pm	Lethbridge @ Alberta
Sunday, 17 October, 12pm	Calgary @ Alberta
Sunday, 24 October, 12pm	UBC @ Alberta
Thursday, 28 October, 6pm	Alberta @ Trinity Western
Saturday, 30 October, 1pm	Alberta @ UBC
Sunday, 31 October, 1pm	Alberta @ Victoria

Women's Soccer

Complete Pandas regular season schedule
(all games on CJSR; all home games at Foote Field)

Date	Game
Saturday, 18 September, 12pm	Alberta @ Lethbridge
Sunday, 19 September, 12pm	Alberta @ Calgary
Saturday, 25 September, 12pm	Trinity Western @ Alberta
Sunday, 26 September, 12pm	Victoria @ Alberta
Thursday, 30 September, 4pm	Alberta @ Regina
Friday, 1 October, 4pm	Alberta @ Saskatchewan
Sunday, 3 October, 12pm	Saskatchewan @ Alberta
Friday, 15 October, 2pm	Lethbridge @ Alberta
Sunday, 17 October, 12pm	Calgary @ Alberta
Saturday, 23 October, 12pm	Regina @ Alberta
Sunday, 24 October, 12pm	UBC @ Alberta
Thursday, 28 October, 6pm	Alberta @ Trinity Western
Saturday, 30 October, 1pm	Alberta @ UBC
Sunday, 31 October, 1pm	Alberta @ Victoria



HITTING THE SACK Golden Bears gang tackle a bag during training camp last week.

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B-boy's stance

K-OS on hip hop and *Joyful Rebellion*, his new album

BRETT LAMBERT
Arts & Entertainment Writer

When it comes to music genres, hip hop may have it the hardest. Its longevity and legitimacy have always been in question. And now, just as the world is finally recognizing the genre as more than just a fad, the accusations of staleness begin. Can rap ever get an even break?

"That's because hip hop isn't allowed to evolve like other music," explains Toronto enee K-OS. "Take rock and roll: the Beatles, the Beach Boys, Radiohead. All these bands are allowed to evolve and do different types of records. A lot of [hip hop] artists are scared out of taking chances because sometimes all they have is their rep and more people think of it as 'on the streets.' Because I didn't grow up on the streets I don't really have a rep like that. I can do whatever I want because I don't really fear people not liking me because I don't fit their definition of music."

One listen to K-OS' new album—*Joyful Rebellion*—breathes new hope into the genre. With its positive vibes and diverse sound (mixing reggae, latin, jazz, rock, and other styles), it's the perfect antidote to those mainstream headaches caused by 50 Cent, Nelly, P Diddy and other radio rappers.

"People like Lauryn Hill, [Outkast's] Andre 3000, the Roots: they're all the beginning of taking

a step out of the norm," says K-OS. "People are just bored of the same kind of thing, whether it's conscious rap or juggy rap. Music wasn't made for repetition, it was made for evolution and hopefully that'll happen within the next second."

K-OS' own unique musical landscape can be traced back to his unique upbringing. Raised by Jehovah's Witnesses, and having lived in both Trinidad and Toronto, he's had the luxury of experiencing two different worlds.

"People are just bored of the same thing... Music wasn't made for repetition, it was made for evolution and hopefully that'll happen within the next second."

K-OS

"I've lived in different realities and experienced different environments. Different environments create different artistic landscapes. Trinidad was about learning my parents' culture. Both my uncles were musicians and feeding me kinda grassroots ideas about how simple music can be, like it was in their blood. It really gave me the confidence to be a musician beyond having to go to school to learn it."

"By the time I got back to Toronto in '85, everyone's into hip hop and carrying ghetto blasters, breakdancing and wearing Adidas. That stuff made

me go 'Wow!' My music has always been those two parameters: grassroots folk elements mixed with hip hop elements."

K-OS also makes sure to give a particular tip of the hat to the influence of rap's Golden Age—the '80s. The record's first single, "B-Boy Stance," is a track immersed in old-school goodness.

"I grew up in that era of rap, so that's what I know," he says. "When I created that song I was trying to conjure that spirit and the feeling that I used to feel when I listened to music."

It's the early spirit of hip hop that K-OS hopes to bring to those who've forgotten what this oft-dismissed genre of music can be about.

"For the younger crowd, it kind of bridges the gap between what happened in 1992 and 1997, where it flipped to the whole East Coast/West Coast stuff and people were caught up with the money thing. It's refreshing to have a retro-historical lesson into where hip hop was when they were too young to appreciate it."



K-OS IN ORDER



JOYFUL REBELLION
released 24 August
(American release 21 September)

EXIT released 2004. Sold 17,000 copies in Canada (Nielsen Soundscan) and won the Source Award for International Album of the Year (2003).

His real name is Kheaven

Brereton. K-OS stands for "knowledge of self."

Though born in Trinidad, K-OS grew up outside of Toronto, in Whitby, Ontario.

Joyful Rebellion features a collaboration with fellow Canadian, Sam Roberts, on the track "Dirty Water." Another Canadian artist, Sarah Slean, is featured on the album. Her song "Sweet Ones" is sampled in

"Love Self."

K-OS collaborated with the Chemical Brothers for their '93-'03 best-of compilation on the song "Get Yourself High." Recent collaborations with DJ Al Shaheed Muhammad from a Tribe Called Quest and the Roots are awaiting release.

FACT BOXES COMPILED BY LEAH COLLINS

PERFECT YOUR 'B-BY STANCE'

You might have the moves down, but what about your linguistic stance? Take the advice of Mr Fresh and the Supreme Rockers as they serve it in



their 1984 paperback, **BREAKDANCING: MR FRESH AND THE SUPREME ROCKERS SHOW YOU HOW TO DO IT.**

BAD Bad is real good. In other words, if it's good enough, then it's bad.

BITE When someone bites one of your moves, then they steal it. Biting moves is really wack, but everyone does it. If you see someone biting one of your

moves, you can pretend you're biting your finger, as a sign that you know they're biting.

FRESH Fresh means original, good, or real good. And to say it right, you always accent the word fresh: "Our new routine is fresh."

JUICE If you got juice, you got gull with someone who counts.

POWER If you're a dancer

and you're really rocking, you're in power. For example, Michael Jackson is in his power.

ROCK When you're really getting down dance-wise, you're rocking. "How'd it go?" "Man, we were rockin' shit."

WACK The opposite of fresh. Bad, not bad. Everything bad is wack. "Look at that Calvin Klein outfit." "Yeah, it's wack."

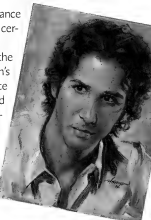
SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

Josh Groban
Rexall Place
Sunday, 5 September at 7:30pm

Since releasing his renowned single "You Raise Me Up" in 2001, this young opera-esque phenomenon has sold over five million albums worldwide, top-

ping off his debut tour with a performance at the Salt Lake City Olympics closing ceremonies.

Dubbed "the new boy wonder of the voice" by the *New York Times*, Groban's powerful vocal style and oh-so-cute baby face make him the preferred artist of both young and old connoisseurs of classical music. If you're one of his devoted fans, you know what I'm talking about. If not, your mom probably does, so this weekend be so kind as to treat her to Groban's show. Who knows? You might even like it yourself.



Marques Wyatt
Horizons CD Tour
The Standard
(6107 104 Street)
Thursday, 2 September
at 9pm
No minors

Marques Wyatt is the embodiment of musical revolution. He started off listening to both classical and psychedelic rock, eventually developing a deep passion

for jazz, and his subsequent discovery of clubbing led to the production of what has been called "the deepest, most soulful kind of house music." After promoting and playing countless parties, Wyatt is ready to shake some life into the dull cat-comb that we call *The Standard*. If you're anxious to



ESO aims to bring Mother Nature a touch of class

Edmonton Symphony Orchestra tunes up for its tenth anniversary of Enbridge Symphony Under the Sky

Edmonton Symphony Orchestra
Enbridge Symphony Under the Sky
2-6 September
Heritage Amphitheatre
Hawrelak Park
www.edmontonsymphony.com

ASIA SZKULIAREK
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Every year, summer wraps up with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra's Enbridge Symphony Under the Sky, the city's only outdoor festival of orchestral music, which features not only works created by renowned composers, but also scores from popular movies and a little touch of rock 'n' roll.

"We started this in 1994 thinking it would be a good way to get out into the community, because it's just a different way to hear classical music," says ESO publicist Jerrold Ellander. "The geese are flying down south, the leaves are starting to turn, and we've got squirrels running across the stage; it's really the outdoors."

This year not only marks the tenth year that the event has been up and running, but also commemorates the departure of the ESO's founding artistic director, David Hoyt, and the introduction of his successor, conductor Timothy Vernon.

In light of the anniversary celebration, the format of the concert series

has been modified, with each running day of the festival featuring a different category of music. In other words, audiences will be able to experience what the ESO does year-round, compacted into five days.

On Thursday, dubbed "Two Fifths of Beethoven," concert-goers can expect to hear two of the musical master's most recognized and powerful creations: the Emperor, Piano Concerto No 5 and the Fifth Symphony.

Friday includes waltzes and popular overtures from the likes of Strauss and William Tell.

This "Orchestral Spectacular" marks the debut of 15-year-old cellist Marie Pruski, and is meant to showcase the orchestra and popular concertmaster Martin Riseley.

"We started this in 1994 thinking it would be a good way to get out into the community, because it's just a different way to hear classical music. The geese are flying down south, the leaves are starting to turn, and we've got squirrels running across the stage."

**JERROLD ELLANDER,
ESO PUBLICIST**

Saturday's performances take a different turn as the ESO presents "Chamber Music Under the Sky."

"It's an opportunity for a few musicians to sit down together and do what they like to do in a more intimate environment," explains Ellander.

The evening portion of that day's concerts, "Movie Magic," features scores from *Harry Potter* and *Lord of the Rings*, to name a few; in other words, music guaranteed to get smiles of recognition from the audience.

While Sunday traditionally is family day, it also features well-known Edmonton rock 'n' roll nostalgia band The Nomads. Pairing up with conductor Raymond Baril in a concert centering on classic rock and Motown, the ESO's goal is to bring a touch of class to great rock tunes across the decades.

The festival ends with a bang on Monday night, when the orchestra, along with members of the Royal Canadian Artillery 20th Field Regiment, joins in an impressive military salute, playing Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture and other marches as a tribute to Canada's Armed Forces.

"Anybody can come out, because it crosses everybody's interests," concludes Ellander, adding that the biggest challenge of organizing the event is the uncertainty of Mother Nature.

Thursday's concert has already been moved to the Winsper Centre due to forecasts of wet weather. In case of further rainouts, updates on the festival's concerts can be found at the ESO website.

Despite wet weather, the ESO's spirit isn't dampened. Says Ellander, "we're really focusing on putting the spotlight on everything that the orchestra can do and encouraging people to come out to concerts year-round."



get a brand new taste of the nightclub experience, why not let the suave and spiritual Wyatt bring a little bit of New York into your pre-weekend routine?

Killswitch Engage
with *From Autumn to Ashes*
Red's (WEM)
Saturday, 4 September at 7pm
All ages

If the inevitable start of a new school

year angers you, and you want to fuel the fire that is your early-September rage, Red's is the place to be this Saturday night. The average person doesn't hear much about Killswitch Engage, but their biography, which describes them as "a band unafraid to rewrite the rules of the game" includes words like



"crack cocaine" and "revolution."

If you're unsure of whether these refer to the addictiveness of their music or their pre-show rituals, you have no choice but to shell out a few bucks for tickets and find out on your own. Not convinced? Cover art from the band's most recent album features a bloody heart impaled by spikes. Eh?

ASIA SZKULIAREK
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Dynamite's Battle of Waterloo

Underdeveloped non-persons make for underdeveloped non-movie



DAVID BERRY
Soon-to-be-ex-boyfriend

Point

"You know, there's like a butt-load of gangs at this school. This one gang kept wanting me to join because I'm pretty good with a bow staff."

Hot damn, that was hilarious! Wait, here comes something funnier!

"Tina, you fat lard, come get some DINNER! Tina, eat food. Eat the FOOD!"

You're laughing your ass off, aren't you? Of course you are. Because you, and seemingly everyone else on this godforsaken planet, think *Napoleon Dynamite* is the funniest damn movie to hit theatres since Jack Lemmon put on pantyhose. You morons.

But it's not just you common, know-nothing types that like this movie; critics, too, can't get enough of it. And my friends. And my soon-to-be-ex-girlfriend. But can none of you look past this supposed "humour"—I'll admit, I don't find someone mispronouncing "munchucks" funny, at all—and see the horror that is this movie?

And no, I'm not talking about the lack of plot, though that does make this movie one of the more boring ways to spend an hour and a half. Nor am I talking about actor Jon Heder's performance, which got an awful lot of credit considering it consists of nothing but walking around with eyes and mouth half-open while saying lines in an annoying voice. No, the horrible thing about this movie is the characters, or more accurately, how they're treated by screenwriters Jared and Jerusha Hess.

The writers Hess don't think enough of their characters to make them real people. It's not that they parade them around maliciously like some kind of freak show, as some critics claim. No, the Hesses like their characters and probably honestly think they're giving them a fair shake.

The problem is that the writers can't even be malicious to these people, because they don't think of them as people. They "like" them in a kind of condescending "aww, look at the little mouth breather—let's watch him do something zany, like talk about hunting Wolverines—isn't that special," way. The Hesses completely disregard the fact that these people might be anything other than the idiot caricatures that they see them as, and might actually have different levels. You know, like real people do?

The sad thing is, the writers have actually been credited for doing this: one Edmonton critic praised Hess & Hess for showing us that deep down, we're all freaks, since all the characters get treated in this superficial way. Why anyone deserves praise for making every character an underdeveloped non-person is beyond me.

This movie, from plot to humour to, most of all, character, is horrible. Stop liking it, now.

Pretty much the worst movie ever? Like anyone can even know that.



DAN KASZTOR
Rex Kwon Do yellow belt

Counterpoint

Dang! Dave, you IDIOT! How can you think that *Napoleon Dynamite* is not one of the greatest films of the year? Not only are the story, characters, setting and joke beats wholly different from any other comedy in recent memory, the film is able to be hilarious with a G-rating.

The key to ND is the characters. Each person in Napoleon's hometown is unique and not a mere regurgitation of stock stereotypes. In particular, Napoleon isn't the charismatic hero that protagonists in high-school movies always tend to be even if they're supposed to be nerdy, light-drawing, Dave Berry-esque types.

While the various denizens of ND may not have the general characteristics of regular movie types, they still present likeable and interesting personas. For example, the fact that Pedro never smiles during the course of the film makes the eventual perking of his lips all the more important. The social ineptitude of Kip's character gives his eventual transformation more punch.

Perhaps the idiosyncrasies of Napoleon's world might turn off those with limited tastes. The humour isn't the same as the ha-ha found in easily-digested, generic comedies. ND is different and that's what makes it hilarious. Since the pace of the jokes is abnormal, the laughs come unexpectedly, instead of at regimented intervals determined by "the man."

However, explaining comedy to someone with-

out a sense of humour is akin to explaining quantum physics to a dog; no matter how hard you try, roger gains no understanding, only confusion and anger. And that's alright, because not all jokes should be for all people, and all the explaining in the world won't make the phrase "munchucks skills" funny to a person who didn't laugh the first time.

I'm not saying that people who have a problem with ND are idiots—it isn't for all tastes, after all—I'm just saying that those who don't get jokes shouldn't get worked up trying to tell people that there wasn't a joke to begin with.

This movie, from plot to humour to, most of all, character, is superb. Continue liking it right now.

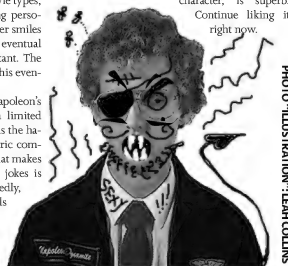


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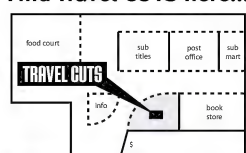
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Wicked confusing

New Josh Hartnett thriller less Hitchcockian, more hit and miss

Wicker Park

Directed by Paul McGuigan
Starring Josh Hartnett, Rose Byrne, Diane Kruger,
Matthew Lillard and Jessica Paré
Opens Friday, 3 September
www.wickerparkmovie.com

BRETT LAMBERT
Arts & Entertainment Writer

It's becoming harder and harder to believe movie trailers. For instance, watch the ad for the new Josh Hartnett vehicle, *Wicker Park*, and you'll be dazzled by the promise of a "sexy" suspense thriller of Hitchcockian proportions. There are craftily-edited glimpses of brief passionate affairs and dire consequences/sexy results courtesy of a mysterious psycho girl. Interesting and easy-to-follow: a winning formula. And also completely different from the actual movie-watching experience.

Wicker Park is an infuriating jigsaw puzzle of a story more confusing than Hartnett's appeal to pre-teen girls. There's a smidge of sexiness, as advertised, and though the movie is occasionally riveting, the "thriller" component could use a little work. Some minor psychological turmoil is about as far as the movie rates on the thrill scale.

As for the story, the movie follows Matthew (Josh Hartnett), a Chicago investment banker with a bright future ahead of him. He's about to close an important deal with a Chinese client, he's engaged to his boss' lovely young daughter, Rebecca (Jessica Paré), and he's even got his best friend Luke (Matthew Lillard) by his side to provide some requisite comic relief.

But just before he's about to leave for China on business, he catches a glimpse of a woman he hasn't seen for years. Convinced it's his long-lost love, Lisa (Diane Kruger), he ditchies his flight and scours the city to find her.

As he later finds out, things aren't what they seem. It turns out Luke's

girlfriend, Alex (Rose Byrne), is behind a plot to keep Lisa and Matt as far away from each other as possible. Alex plays with their emotions as if they were tidily-winks due to her selfish and obsessively fixated ways towards pretty-boy Matt.

All of this (and more) is told slowly through flashbacks and more flashbacks told from different characters' points of view. The moviegoer is initially led to believe the story will be linear and then is thrown for a loop as time shifts back and forth. Only until the film's typical romantic conclusion will anything start to make sense. But in the meantime, viewers will be scratching their collective heads trying to piece it all together.

Confusion doesn't make for thrills. If there are any true shocks to this movie, it's the performances. Matthew Lillard (*Scoby Doo*, *Without a Paddle*) breaks from his typical acting fare to give a non-amusing performance. He's good comic relief and a necessary foil to Josh Hartnett's character. Hartnett also conveys a wide range of acting chops: from steely-eyed to pained to anguished.

Wicker Park is an infuriating jigsaw puzzle of a story, more confusing than Hartnett's appeal to pre-teen girls. There's a smidge of sexiness, as advertised, and though the movie is occasionally riveting, the "thriller" component could use a little work.

As for those "Hitchcockian" elements *Wicker Park* would like to claim, the movie's use of mistaken identity recalls

Vertigo and Matt's blonde love interest certainly is reminiscent of many of Hitchcock's blonde lady characters. However, if he were behind the camera for this film, there's no doubt Hitchcock would have served up more suspense and a lot less bewilderment.

As it is, *Wicker Park*'s director, Paul McGuigan, seems to assume his audience is telepathic—the cut-and-paste storytelling is impossible to follow unless you were presumably in his head. Not that it's impossible to figure out—with a little reflection, you'll likely piece this story together. But then, *Wicker Park* doesn't offer enough interest that anyone would want to analyze it to a conclusion. You're better off watching the trailer.

CAN'T LIVE "WICKER"

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For you, though, it'll cost **nothing**. Email entertainment@gateway.ualberta.ca with the name of another Kim Basinger movie and you could score a double guest pass to see **Cellular** at Silvercity Thursday, 9 September at 7 pm.

THE GATEWAY

PHONING IT IN SINCE 1910

Spidey & You

could have more in common than you think.

Spidey = totally rad
You = totally rad

Spidey = jive-talking superhero
You = jive-talking superhero
Spidey = newspaper contributor
You = newspaper contributor

Be like Spidey: write for GATEWAY A&E. This Thursday at 5pm is your chance to come to an A&E meeting and get in on the web-slinging (read: article-writing) action. Swing up to 3-04 SUB, pick up an assignment, learn about writing, and meet your friendly neighbourhood A&E Editor, Leah Collins. My spidey sense says you'll be there.

FREE STUFF "2"

THE GATEWAY WANTS TO SEND YOU TO SEE...

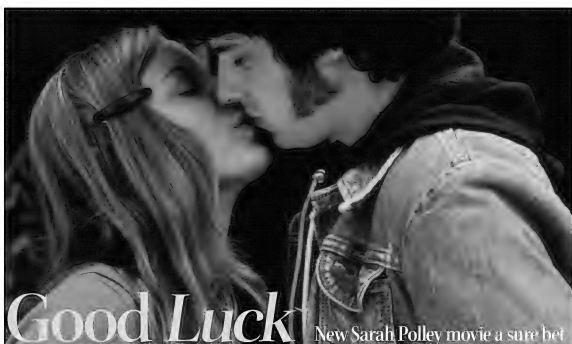


Alice (Milla Jovovich) has just survived a biochemical disaster (*Resident Evil*). But can she survive the big city? Deadly, zombie-ravaged Raccoon City, that is.

Teaming up with a band of other survivors, Alice must escape. But before they make it out alive, they'll have to contend with masses of the ravenous undead and the monstrous bioengineered weapons of the Umbrella corporation, the deadliest of which is their seemingly unstoppable assassin, Nemesis, who will not rest until everything in the city is dead.

Email entertainment@gateway.ualberta.ca and mention Milla Jovovich's birthplace, and you could win a double guest pass to *Resident Evil: Apocalypse* at 7pm on Wednesday, 8 September at Silvercity.

THE GATEWAY
BIOHAZARDOUS TERROR SINCE 1910



Luck

Directed by Peter Wellington
Starring Luke Kirby and Sarah Polley
Metro Cinema
3-6 September at 5pm

LEAH COLLINS
Arts & Entertainment Editor

It's 1972 and the now-legendary Canada/USSR Summit Series of hockey is just getting underway. Canada has just suffered its first defeat at the hands of the Russians, and Shane (Luke Kirby), Luck's young-ish protagonist, is coming to terms with the loss. All Canada has is hockey, he reflects.

There's a certain amount of truth in that statement. More often than not, Canada reaches for the hockey stick over, say, its film credentials, to measure its greatness. Which makes the Canada/Russia series a particularly clever backdrop for a Canadian movie. And more than that, the series, at least how it's presented in *Luck*, represents a fist-bared shake-up to complacency. Greatness, in hockey even, is not something to take for granted. Risks need to be taken. And though a hockey game—just another gamble, if you will—can end in either absolute loss or victory, chances need to be taken if real greatness is to be achieved.

Shane, a mutton-chopped, sensi-

tive, would-be writer-type, desperately wants to be great. He's one of many grad school dropouts hoping to write his version of the great Canadian novel, but instead of spending his days over the old typewriter, he bides his time churning out captions for catalogue furniture and watching the horse races with his housemates.

But more than that, Shane wants to win at love. He's been pining over college pal, Margaret (Sarah Polley), but holding back from taking a chance on expressing his feelings for her. One missed opportunity leads to another, and eventually Margaret is gone—to travel to London with her old boyfriend. Realizing he's been sitting out on what could have been a sure bet, Shane starts placing wagers of a different kind, and becomes a regular at the blackjack tables of Toronto's underground casinos.

Unlucky in love and unlucky in general, Shane ends up owing \$10 000 to surly casino types and a creepy, hockey jersey-wearing loan shark named Bill (Randy Hughson), who isn't averse to breaking necks in exchange for thousand-dollar debts. Shane needs to raise money quick, but he's not content to just break even. After all, what's exciting about just being okay? He wants to win; he wants to be great.

Whether Shane actually achieves

the greatness he strives for is a bit ambiguous in the end, but Kirby's performance, full of graceful and yet somehow seething gentleness, certainly comes close to the mark. Both he and Polley have a quiet, genuine quality that accentuates well-written characters.

And *Luck*, too, is a fine movie: well-paced, with thoughtful characters and an engaging script (written by director Peter Wellington). The movie is awash in the grainy jaundiced look of a '70s CBC sitcom, lending both a retro sensibility and a mellow filter for the tone of the film. And told mostly through Shane's own narrative—the sort of thoughtful yet often self-absorbed florid meanderings expected of an English major in a quarter-life crisis—there's a quiet reflection to the entire movie. Which is an interesting yet unsettling contrast to the pervading tension of the personal and sport-related drama of the story.

Luck has a certain gentleness and humoured grace—which, though it makes for a pleasant and perhaps almost stereotypically Canadian experience (adequate, not at all ostentatious, with a subtle sense of humour), lacks greatness, per se. But then, perhaps there's a certain greatness in crafting a solidly adequate film.

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ASIA "TALENT" SZKULAREK
Arts & Entertainment Writer

There's talent, and then there's Billy Talent.

The Reason's new album finds the band walking the proverbial tightrope between these two categories, and while some tracks on the album successfully blend the right amount of pop, punk, and edgy melodies, some feature nothing more than overbearing guitars and angst-ridden screaming.

It's the kind of senseless white noise that makes the band sound more like a pubescent group of loud high-school misfits than the professional and self-assured musicians that they claim to be.

While their previous releases featured more of a straight-up punk rock style, Ravena revolves less around hardcore rock and more around what they describe as a "dance feel."

Opinions about whether this is a good thing will vary from listener to listener, but one thing can be asked for certain: when will the music industry stop churning out bands whose albums require a full bottle of Tylenol to listen to?

Various Artists

40 Years Ago Today:
A Tribute to the Beatles
Bullseye Records
<http://www.bullseyecanada.com>

DAVID "MOP-TOP" BERRY
Opinion Editor

This collection of Beatles covers is both original and good. However, the good parts aren't very original, and the original parts aren't very good. When the group you're covering happens to be the Beatles, the challenge of a good covers compilation becomes that much harder; it takes a talented person to bring something new and interesting to a Beatles' song.

Since the roster on this CanCon throwaway is on the low end of the C-list (Kilauea, anyone?), what you get is a mix of bad-to-semi-decent impressions of Beatles' songs mixed in with bad-to-horrible re-imaginings of Beatles' songs. By far the worst is a bizarre German polka version of "She Loves You" (renamed "Sie Liebt Dich"), that the producers thought enough of to include as the introduction.

That fact makes you think they might be aware of how big a joke this is. Regardless, there's no reason to buy this disc of bad karaoke and pseudo-originality, what with the ample amounts of real Beatles' recordings around.



Pimp Tea

An Unlabeled Rap
Brooklyn Entertainment
www.pimptea.com

KRISTINE "P-KRISSTY" OWRAM
Managing Editor

Pimp Tea, or "Positively Influencing More People To Excel Artistically," is an over-educated white rapper from New Brunswick who, implausibly enough, has actually been nominated for an East Coast Music Award (a fact which says more about the state of music on the East Coast than his artistic merits). If you're unable to draw your own conclusions about this album based on these facts alone, here's the "down-low" on some of the songs.

"Can I Get A CS," is an ode to UNB's comp sci program. It includes such revealing lyrics as "what's that bar / the one that stretches real far / the one that gives you spaces / sort of forward erases / unless insert is on? / Oh yeah! Space bar!" (Imagine someone mumbling this as fast as they possibly can, and you'll have a close approximation of the Pimp Tea sound.)

Or maybe you'd prefer "Hick Hop," about how he's, like, a white rapper. Or perhaps an exposé on how, get this, the music industry is corrupt in "Music Biz."

Here's some free advice, Pimp Tea: finish your comp sci Masters and get out of this corrupt industry before anyone else hears this album.



Lisa Loeb

The Way It Really Is
Zoe Records
www.lisa-loeb.com

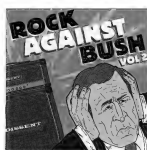
CATLIN "REALITY BITES" CRAWSHAW
News Editor

Lisa Loeb pops more than she rocks. But when she rocks, as she occasionally does on *The Way It Really Is*, the grishly pop singer is infinitely more engaging.

This disc features songs more lyrically and musically multi-dimensional than Loeb's '90s hit "Stay (I Missed You)." Loeb moves away from the saccharine, repetitive yawns she's become known for. There are moments when Loeb "rocks" with heavier arrangements. Though her voice is childish and dainty, it ultimately works.

In "Diamonds," Loeb cryptically reflects on human nature to the tune of a quasi-rock melody. Strangely, she pulls it off and pulls you in. "Probably" works too, but with heavier drumbeats and emphasized bass.

Ultimately, however, with her little voice and adorable trademark specs, Loeb is far too cute to be a rocker, and there's something hesitant about these eleven songs. Though the album tries to be a thoughtful and bold reflection on life and love, *The Way It Really Is* lacks passion and Loeb ultimately sounds too innocent to effectively wax poetic.



Various Artists

Rock Against Bush Volume 2
Fat Wreck Chords
www.fatwreck.com

ROSS "AGAINST BUSH" PRUSAKOWSKI
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Emotion and passion are what make music great to listen to. Unfortunately, the various "punk" artists of *Rock Against Bush Volume 2* seem to have forgotten that basic rule, despite pumping out a previous *Rock Against Bush* compilation and related concert tour.

Nearly every song on this album feels apathetic and standard. Just the sort of typical fare you could have plucked from any of the featured artists' previously-released CDs.

To be fair, there are a few hints that this is a political CD; the cover does feature a cartoon George W. Bush blocking out dissent—as represented by a blaring alarm, for some reason—and the liner notes offer "20 More Reasons to Hate Bush" as well as a list of tips on how to get politically involved.

But unless a person has the mental capacity of a three-year-old and bases their vote on how rock stars cast their ballots, this CD will have no impact on the upcoming US election. *Rock Against Bush Volume 2* makes for a decent (and typical) punk rock compilation and nothing else.

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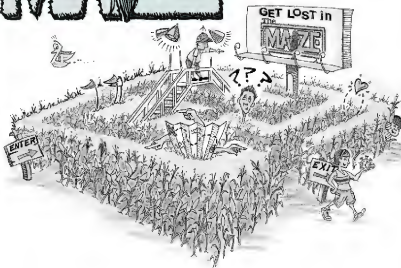
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That's right: regardless of what you may have heard, any undergraduate student can volunteer for the Gateway. All you need is gumption, know-how, and various other old-timey nouns. We provide you with the tools—computers, tape recorders, press releases, swag—to get the job done, and you get your lovely name in sweet, sweet newsprint.

Volunteer for us!

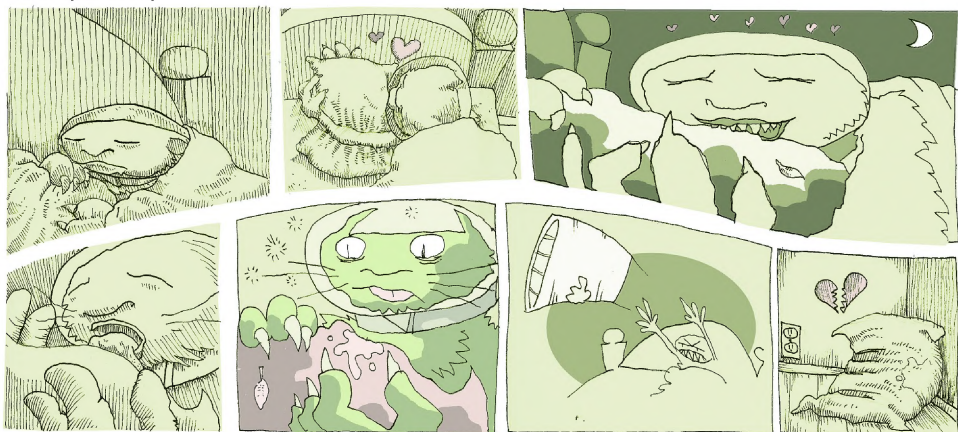
Come up to 3.04 \$UIB or else contact one of these editors to see how you can start down your path to fame!

- Cosanna Preston & Caitlin Crawshaw, News, 492-7308
- David Berry, Opinion, 492-6663
- Leah Collins, Arts & Entertainment, 492-7052
- Jake Troughton, Sports, 492-6652
- Leanne Forig, Photo, 492-6648
- Daniel Kaszor, Production, 492-6661
- Kristine O'wram, Managing, 492-6654
- Adam Rozenhart, Fearless Leader, 492-5168

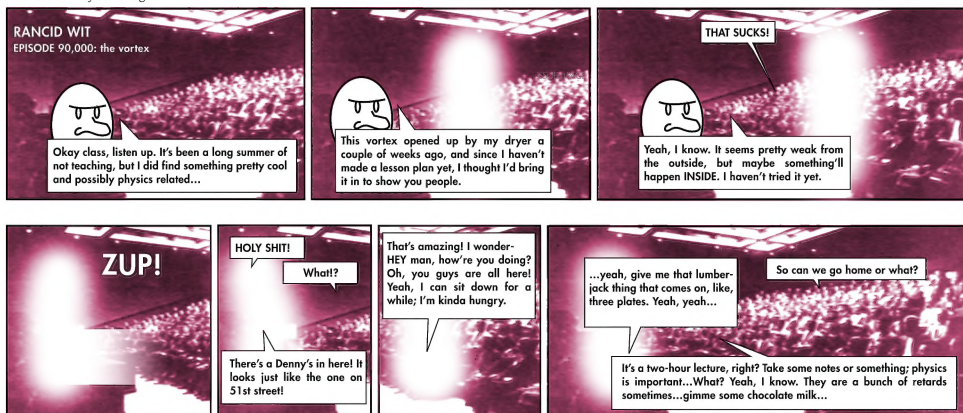
THE GATEWAY

German mountaineers since 1910, for some reason

SPACE CAT by Fish Griukowsky



RANCID WIT by Dave Leriog



BLACKOUT by Chris Krause and Jen Koskela



THE SEX BOYS by Mike "Kinkos" Winters



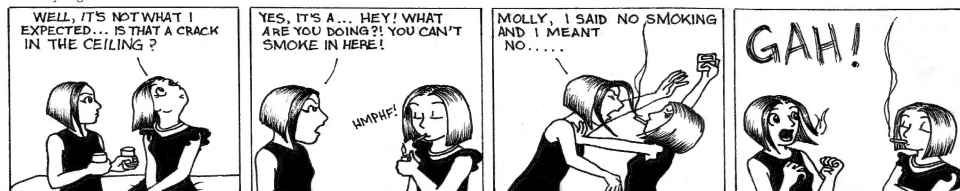
CARCINOMA by Lloyd Majeau



COMPUTER BLUES by Kevin Ng



ANNA by Megan Simko



LITTLE WHITE LIE by Justin Spence



POLAR AND BROOKLYN by Alex Labarda



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